

## Appendix N

### DESCRIPTION OF RECREATION RESOURCES

Table N-1 Summary Table of SRMAs and ERMAs				
Recreation Management Areas	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D
Headwaters		Headwaters ERMA 13,798 acres		SRMA 34,785 acres
North Sand Hills	SRMA 1,450 acres	SRMA 1,450 acres	SRMA 1,450 acres	SRMA 1,450 acres
Strawberry		Strawberry ERMA 7,856 acres	SRMA 7,856 acres	SRMA 7,856 acres
Upper Colorado River (West of Hwy 9)	SRMA 11,904 acres	SRMA 14,083 acres	SRMA 14,083 acres	SRMA 14,219 acres
Upper Colorado River (East of Hwy 9)	SRMA 255 acres	ERMA 807 acres	ERMA 807 acres	SRMA 807 acres
Wolford		Wolford ERMA 25,657 acres		SRMA 25,657 acres
Lands Not Designated as Recreation Management Areas (i.e. Non-RMAs)	364,251 acres	314,209 acres	353,664 acres	293,092 acres
Total ERMA Acres	0	48,118	807	0
Total SRMA Acres	13,609	15,533	23,389	84,891
Percent of Field Office proposed as ERMA	0%	12.7%	0.2%	0%
Percent of Field Office proposed as SRMA	3.6%	4.1%	6.2%	22.5%

## Headwaters Special Recreation Management Area (Alternative D)

### Supporting Information

#### Important Values of the SRMA.

- The area offers close-to-town motorized recreation opportunities in a natural setting.

#### Recreation Demand.

- The primary visitors would be residents of east Grand County.

#### The General Types of Visitors to be Targeted.

- The targeted visitor would be identified as close-to-home, day-use motorcycle riders.

#### Ability to Manage Recreation Resources.

- The majority of the existing trail system was created by horseback riders. The trails were not designed for motorcycle trail riding. There are currently areas along Kinney Creek that would facilitate construction staging areas. There are no developed trailheads or staging areas. A major investment would be required by the BLM to complete implementation.

### Recreation Management Zone (RMZ) 1

#### **RMZ Outcome Objective:**

Participants in visitor assessments report an average 4.0 realization of the targeted outcomes listed below. (4.0 on a probability scale where: 1 = Not at all realized to 5 = totally realized).

Activities	Experiences	Benefits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ATV riding</li><li>• Motorcycle riding</li><li>• Snowmobile riding</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enjoying easy access to close-to-home outdoor amenities</li><li>• Getting needed physical exercise</li><li>• Reducing some built-up mental tensions</li></ul>	<p><b>Personal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Better sense of place within my community</li><li>• Improved physical fitness and health maintenance</li><li>• Restore mind from unwanted stress</li></ul> <p><b>Community/Social:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Greater community involvement in recreation and other land use decisions</li></ul> <p><b>Environmental:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improved care for community aesthetics</li><li>• Increased awareness and protection of natural landscapes</li></ul> <p><b>Economic:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increased desirability as a place to live or retire</li></ul>

### Proposed Recreation Setting Characteristics (RSCs)

#### Proposed Physical RSCs

- Remoteness: Maintain the existing density of roads
- Naturalness: Allow a moderate level of change to the existing naturalness of the SRMA
- Visitor Facilities: Maintain current access roads; Develop additional parking/unloading areas and trails

#### Proposed Social RSCs

- Contacts (avg.): Manage for a season average of 15 - 20 encounters outside parking areas
- Group Size (avg.): Manage for a season average of 5 - 10 people per group outside of parking areas
- Evidence of Use: Rehab and reduce signs of use by other visitors.

### **Proposed Operational RSCs**

- Access (types of travel): Develop new motorized trails.
- Visitor Services/Info: Basic information on-site; occasional staff contact and assistance.
- Management Controls: Rules, regulations and ethics clearly posted. Use restrictions, limitations and/or closures may be implemented.

### **Supporting Management Action and Allowable Use Decisions**

#### **Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:**

- Designate the area as *Limited to Designated* (All modes and types of travel, except foot and horse travel and authorized over-the-snow vehicles, would be limited to designated routes and trails).
- Close McQuery Creek and Kinney Creek spur roads and trails to motorized travel between Labor Day to June 1. (Exception: motorized travel is limited to snowmobiles and authorized over-the-snow vehicles.)
- Close the zone to motorized travel between December 1 and June 1. (Exception: motorized travel is limited to snowmobiles and authorized over-the-snow vehicles.)

#### **Camping:**

- Close the Jacques Road Parking area to overnight camping.
- Close Kinney Creek Road to dispersed camping.
- Overnight camping is limited to designated campsites.

#### **Shooting:**

- Close the southern part of the zone and the area around Kinney Creek to target shooting. (Refer to recreational target shooting in Recreation section in Chapter 2 and map in Appendix A)

#### **Lands and Realty:**

- ROW avoidance areas to include developed recreation sites.
- Retain SRMAs and developed recreational sites for long-term management.

#### **Stipulations and Conditions of Approval for Oil and Gas Leasing and Other Surface-Disturbing Activities:**

- To protect recreational setting character, recreation activity opportunities, and visitor health and safety in areas of high recreational value and/or significant recreational activity, apply Controlled Surface Use (CSU) restrictions and /or Condition of Approval (COA) (Appendices B&D) within the SRMA.
- To protect federal investment in facilities, provide for recreation use, and protect the viewshed from the facility, apply CSU and/or COA restrictions (Appendices B&D) on developed recreation sites, trails, trailheads, and interpretive sites.

#### **Visual Resource Management:**

- Manage the SRMA under VRM class III objectives.

#### **Special Recreation Permits:**

- Issue competitive and organized group Class I, II, & III permits that are consistent with zone objectives. Do not issue new commercial permits. Renew existing commercial permits (Appendix M).

### **Implementation Actions Included in the Land Use Plan**

#### **Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:**

- Designate individual routes as open or closed.
- On open routes, designate type and mode of travel allowed.

### **Subsequent Implementation-level Planning Guidance**

#### **Management**

- Develop a trail plan that maintains the overall existing trail density per square mile, is consistent with the Criteria for Placement of Trails (Appendix P) and meets zone objectives.
- Develop the necessary facilities to accommodate motorized trail riders. (staging areas, toilet facilities, etc.)

- With stakeholder involvement, apply adaptive management (e.g., Limits of Acceptable Change) which focuses on a cycle of *designing-implementing-monitoring-evaluating-adjusting* management actions to achieve zone objectives.

#### Administration

- Pursue agreements with local motorized trail users to leverage funding, secure volunteer help, and promote sustainable conditions of use.
- As one part of a comprehensive funding strategy to support recreation sites and services, the BLM (with partner support) may charge fees for standard or expanded amenity recreation sites and services. Standard or expanded amenity fees are defined in the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA).
- Coordinate with CDOW regarding seasonal and emergency closures for wildlife.

#### Information

- Provide stewardship education/interpretation to help promote responsible motorized recreation (Tread Lightly/Stay the Trail)
- Provide RMZ map at on-site locations that includes information about opportunities, conditions of use, and shows private and public ownership.
- Work with local chambers of commerce, tourism groups and businesses to provide definitive recreation information (i.e., accurate recreation information, user ethics, and use/user expectations) as opposed to promotional marketing.
- Partner with local OHV organizations and the local schools to develop and implement an education program that promotes sustainable conditions of use.

#### Monitoring

- Monitor recreation setting conditions through on-site patrols throughout the year.
- Monitor outcome attainment and preferences through customer assessments (on-site/focus group interviews or visitor studies) on five-year intervals.
- If future monitoring indicates management objectives are not being met, the KFO may create an allocation system for the SRMA.
- When possible, use volunteers to help with on-site monitoring.

## **Recreation Management Zone (RMZ) 2**

### **RMZ Outcome Objective:**

Participants in visitor assessments report an average 4.0 realization of the targeted outcomes listed below. (4.0 on a probability scale where: 1 = Not at all realized to 5 = totally realized).

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Experiences</b>	<b>Benefits</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Camping</li> <li>• Hunting</li> <li>• OHV riding</li> <li>• Scenic driving</li> <li>• Wildlife viewing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Escaping everyday responsibilities for a while</li> <li>• Enjoying closeness to family and friends</li> </ul>	<p><b>Personal Benefits:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restored mind from unwanted stress</li> <li>• Improved skills for outdoor enjoyment</li> </ul> <p><b>Environmental Benefits:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased awareness and protection of natural landscapes</li> </ul> <p><b>Community Benefit:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greater bonding of family and friends</li> <li>• Greater involvement in recreation and other land use decisions</li> </ul> <p><b>Economic:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased desirability as a place to live or retire</li> </ul>

## **Proposed Recreation Setting Characteristics (RSCs)**

### **Proposed Physical RSCs**

- **Remoteness:** Make the area more remote by reducing the route density
- **Naturalness:** Allow a moderate level of change to the naturalness of the SRMA
- **Visitor Facilities:** Develop trailheads with parking areas

### **Proposed Social RSCs**

- **Contacts (avg.):** Manage for a season average of 7 -10 encounters outside parking areas
- **Group Size (avg.):** Manage for a season average of 5 - 15 people per group outside of parking areas
- **Evidence of Use:** Rehab and reduce signs of use by other visitors.

### **Proposed Operational RSCs**

- **Access (types of travel):** Reduce motorized route density (all routes open to motorized travel).
- **Visitor Services/Info:** Basic information on-site; occasional staff contact and assistance.
- **Management Controls:** Rules, regulations and ethics clearly posted. Use restrictions, permits, limitations and/or closures may be implemented.

## **Supporting Management Action and Allowable Use Decisions**

### **Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:**

- Designate the area as *Limited to Designated* (All modes and types of travel, except foot and horse travel and authorized over-the-snow vehicles, would be limited to designated routes and trails).
- Close Grouse Mountain Road and Smith Mesa Road from December 1 to June 1. (Exception: motorized travel is limited to snowmobiles and authorized over-the-snow vehicles.)
- Close the Smith Mesa Lower Main Line Road from Labor Day to June 1. (Exception: motorized travel is limited to snowmobiles and authorized over-the-snow vehicles.)

### **Lands and Realty:**

- ROW avoidance areas to include developed recreation sites.
- Retain SRMAs and developed recreational sites for long-term management.

### **Stipulations and Conditions of Approval for Oil and Gas Leasing and Other Surface-Disturbing Activities :**

- To protect recreational setting character, recreation activity opportunities, and visitor health and safety in areas of high recreational value and/or significant recreational activity, apply CSU and/or COA restrictions (Appendices B&D) within the SRMA.
- To protect federal investment in facilities, provide for recreation use, and protect the viewshed from the facility, apply CSU and/or COA restrictions ((Appendices B&D)) on developed recreation sites, trails, trailheads, and interpretive sites.

### **Visual Resource Management:**

- Manage the SRMA under VRM class III objectives.

### **Special Recreation Permits:**

- Issue competitive and organized group Class I, II, & III permits that are consistent with zone objectives. Do not issue commercial permits (Appendix M).

## **Implementation Actions Included in the Land Use Plan**

### **Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:**

- Designate individual routes as open or closed.
- On open routes, designate type and mode of travel allowed.

## **Subsequent Implementation-level Planning Guidance**

### Management

- Designate existing routes to provide access and reduce route density to enhance wildlife habitat.
- Develop the necessary facilities to accommodate motorized trail riders. (staging areas, toilet facilities, etc.)
- Reroute designated routes consistent with the Criteria for Placement of Trails (see appendix P)
- Build new connections between designated dead-end routes to create loops.
- With stakeholder involvement, apply adaptive management (e.g., Limits of Acceptable Change) which focuses on a cycle of *designing-implementing-monitoring-evaluating-adjusting* management actions to achieve zone objectives.

### Administration

- Pursue agreements with local motorized trail users to leverage funding, secure volunteer help, and promote sustainable conditions of use.
- As one part of a comprehensive funding strategy to support recreation sites and services, the BLM (with partner support) may charge fees for standard or expanded amenity recreation sites and services. Standard or expanded amenity fees are defined in the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA).
- Coordinate with CDOW regarding seasonal and emergency closures for wildlife.

### Information

- Provide stewardship education/interpretation to help promote responsible motorized recreation (Tread Lightly/Stay the Trail)
- Provide RMZ map at on-site locations that includes information about opportunities, conditions of use, and shows private and public ownership.
- Work with local chambers of commerce, tourism groups and businesses to provide definitive recreation information (i.e., accurate recreation information, user ethics, and use/user expectations) as opposed to promotional marketing.
- Partner with local OHV organizations and the local schools to develop and implement an education program that promotes sustainable conditions of use.

### Monitoring

- Monitor recreation setting conditions through on-site patrols throughout the year.
- Monitor outcome attainment and preferences through customer assessments (on-site/focus group interviews or visitor studies) on five-year intervals.
- If future monitoring indicates management objectives are not being met, the KFO may create an allocation system for the SRMA.
- When possible, use volunteers to help with on-site monitoring.

## North Sand Hills Special Recreation Management Area (Alternatives B, C and D)

### Supporting Information

#### Important Values of the SRMA.

- Public lands at the North Sand Hill are valued for the naturally occurring sand dunes. A significant portion of the dunes were identified as a research natural area and subsequently an Instant Study Area, managed under the Interim Policy for Lands under Wilderness Review. The current recreation value is the opportunity for open-dune OHV riding. The local community of Walden values the tourism economy associated with the area.

#### Recreation Demand.

- The primary visitors are a mix of Colorado residents and visitors from surrounding states.

#### The General Types of Visitors to be Served.

- The visitor segment is identified as open-sand OHV enthusiasts.

#### Ability to Manage Recreation Resources.

- The recreation infrastructure is not currently meeting the demand of the area. There are three vault toilets, two on BLM lands and one on adjacent Colorado State Land Board Land. Additional infrastructure would be needed (designated camping areas, additional toilet facilities, and resource protection fencing). Adjacent non-BLM lands are owned by the State of Colorado. The effectiveness of managing recreation resources over the long-term will depend on having: (a) an assurance that gateway communities (businesses, chambers, tourism organizations and local governments) would market the SRMA responsibly and accurately; (b) a commitment that local users/ partners are available to provide on-the-ground support; (c) sufficient funding and staff to implement the planning decisions and the necessary site specific implementation actions; and (d) there would a management commitment from the State of Colorado.

## Recreation Management Zone (RMZ) 1 Open Sand Dunes (Alternatives B and D)

### RMZ Outcome Objective:

Participants in visitor assessments report an average 4.0 on a probability scale where: 1 = Not at all realized to 5 = totally realized targeted outcomes (experiences/benefits) listed below.

Activities	Experiences	Benefits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Day use OHV riding (motorized sand dune activities)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Experiencing adventure and excitement</li><li>Testing my equipment</li><li>Being with others that enjoy the same thing I do</li><li>Enjoying a sense of Independence</li></ul> <b>Alternative D Only</b>	<b>Personal:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Improved outdoor recreational skills</li><li>Greater personal enrichment through involvement with other people</li></ul> <b>Community/Social:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Greater community involvement in recreation and other land use decisions</li><li>Maintenance of distinctive recreation setting character</li></ul> <b>Alternative D Only</b> <b>Economic:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Improved local economic stability</li><li>Increased employment and tax revenue</li></ul>

### Proposed Recreation Setting Characteristics (RSCs)

### **Proposed Physical RSCs**

- Naturalness: Naturally appearing landscape except for obvious access roads; maintain existing landscape
- Visitor Facilities: Develop additional facilities and trails

### **Proposed Social RSCs**

- Group Size (avg.): Manage for a season average of 12 - 15 people per group outside of parking areas
- Evidence of Use: Rehab and reduce signs of use by non-targeted visitors.

### **Proposed Operational RSCs**

- Access (types of travel): All travel within the zone will be open to motorized travel
- Visitor Services/Info: Basic information on-site; occasional staff contact and assistance.
- Management Controls: Rules, regulations and ethics clearly posted. Use restrictions, limitations and/or closures may be implemented.

## **Supporting Management Action and Allowable Use Decisions**

### **Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:**

- Designate the area as *Limited to Designated* (All modes and types of travel, except foot and horse travel and authorized over-the-snow vehicles, would be limited to designated routes and trails).
- Designate the open sand, excluding areas with vegetation, as Open to Motorized and Mechanized Travel.
- Motorized travel will be limited to designated routes that existed at the time the Instant Study Area was designated and to the open sand dunes.
- Close all motorized routes in the zone from December 1 to April 15 (exception: over-the-snow vehicles would be allowed during closure period in Alternative D)

### **Camping:**

- Close the North Sand Hills Instant Study Area to overnight camping.

### **Shooting:**

- Close the zone to target shooting. (Refer to recreational target shooting in Recreation section of Chapter 2, Table 2-2, and map in Appendix A.)

### **Lands and Realty:**

- ROW avoidance areas to include developed recreation sites.
- Retain SRMAs and developed recreational sites for long-term management.

### **Locatable Minerals and other Realty Actions:**

- Petition for withdrawal to the Secretary of the Interior the SRMA from settlement, sale, location or entry under the general land laws, including the mining laws.

### **Mineral Material (salable) Disposal:**

- The SRMA and developed recreation sites would be closed to mineral material disposal.

### **Mineral Leasing:**

- All federal mineral estate within SRMA would be closed to mineral leasing.

### **Conditions of Approval for Surface-Disturbing Activities:**

- Apply COAs (Appendix D) in the SRMA for the protection of the recreation outcomes and the prescribed recreation setting character conditions.

### **Visual Resource Management:**

- Manage the SRMA under VRM class II objectives unless otherwise managed as VRM Class I.

### **Special Recreation Permits:**

- Issue commercial outfitting and organized group Class I - IV permits that are consistent with zone objectives (AU) (Appendix M).
- Designate the SRMA as a 'Special Area' for the purpose of initiating a permit system for private users to achieve zone objectives and setting prescriptions (MA). **Alternative B Only**

## Implementation Actions Included in the Land Use Plan

### Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:

- Designate individual routes as open or closed.
- On open routes, designate type and mode of travel allowed.

## Subsequent Implementation-level Planning Guidance

### Management

- Manage the North Sand Hills ISA under the Interim Management Policy and Guidelines for Lands Under Wilderness Review (H-8550-1) until congressional action. If congressional action releases the area from ISA designation then manage the area to meet the SRMA zone objectives and RSC's through the identified Supporting Management Action and Allowable Use Decisions, Implementation Actions and Implementation-level Planning Guidance.
- Work with stakeholders to complete a capacity analysis to determine carrying capacities of the SRMA.
- Develop the necessary facilities to achieve zone objectives and ensure public health and safety (parking areas, loading and unloading areas, toilets, information panels, etc.)
- Build the necessary barriers to protect vegetation, water and cultural resources.
- With stakeholder involvement, apply adaptive management (e.g., Limits of Acceptable Change) which focuses on a cycle of *designing-implementing-monitoring-evaluating-adjusting* management actions to achieve zone objectives.

### Administration

- Pursue agreements with Jackson County and Colorado State Parks to implement a revenue-sharing fee system to provide necessary Emergency Management Services (EMS) and additional law enforcement required to achieve zone objectives. **Alternative B Only**
- Pursue agreements with Jackson County to provide necessary EMS and additional law enforcement required to achieve zone objectives.
- Pursue agreements with the North Sand Hills Working Group.
- Pursue an agreement with interested OHV organization to leverage funding, secure volunteer help, and promote sustainable conditions of use. (e.g., American Sand Association, Colorado Off Highway Vehicle Coalition, etc.).
- As one part of a comprehensive funding strategy to support recreation sites and services, the BLM (with partner support) may charge fees for standard or expanded amenity recreation sites and services. Standard or expanded amenity fees are defined in the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA). **Alternative B Only**
- Coordinate with CDOW regarding seasonal and emergency closures for wildlife.

### Information

- Provide stewardship education/interpretation to help promote responsible motorized recreation (Tread Lightly/Stay the Trail)
- Provide RMZ map at on-site locations that includes information about opportunities, conditions of use, and shows private and public ownership.
- Work with local chambers of commerce, tourism groups and businesses to provide definitive recreation information (i.e., accurate recreation information, user ethics, and use/user expectations) as opposed to promotional marketing.

### Monitoring

- Develop a monitoring plan to monitor the Instant Study Area to ensure compliance with the Interim Management Policy for Lands under Wilderness Review.
- Monitor recreation setting conditions through on-site patrols from May through September.
- Monitor outcome attainment and preferences through customer assessments (on-site/focus group interviews or visitor studies) on five-year intervals.
- If future monitoring indicates management objectives are not being met, the KFO may create an allocation system for the SRMA.

- When possible, use volunteers to help with on-site monitoring.

### **Recreation Management Zone (RMZ) 2 Camping Area and Adjacent Trails** (Alternatives B and D)

#### **RMZ Outcome Objective:**

Participants in visitor assessments report an average 4.0 realization of the targeted outcomes listed below. (4.0 on a probability scale where: 1 = Not at all realized to 5 = totally realized).

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Experiences</b>	<b>Benefits</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Camping</li><li>• ATV trail riding</li><li>• Motorcycle trail riding</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Experiencing adventure and excitement</li><li>• Testing my equipment</li><li>• Enjoying closeness to family and friends</li><li>• Enjoying a sense of Independence</li></ul> <b>Alternative D Only</b>	<b>Personal:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improved outdoor recreational skills</li><li>• Improve relationships with my family and friends</li><li>• Enhanced sense of personal freedom</li></ul> <b>Community/Social:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Greater community involvement in recreation and other land use decisions</li><li>• Maintenance of distinctive recreation setting character</li></ul> <b>Alternative D Only</b> <b>Economic:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improved local economic stability</li><li>• Increased employment and tax revenue</li></ul>

### **Proposed Recreation Setting Characteristics (RSCs)**

#### **Proposed Physical RSCs**

- Naturalness: Naturally appearing landscape except for obvious access roads; maintain existing landscape
- Visitor Facilities: Develop additional facilities and trails

#### **Proposed Social RSCs**

- Group Size (avg.): Manage for a season average of 12 - 15 people per group outside of parking areas
- Evidence of Use: Rehab and reduce signs of use by non-targeted visitors.

#### **Proposed Operational RSCs**

- Access (types of travel): All travel within the zone will be open to motorized travel
- Visitor Services/Info: Basic information on-site; occasional staff contact and assistance.
- Management Controls: Rules, regulations and ethics clearly posted. Use restrictions, limitations and/or closures may be implemented.

### **Supporting Management Action and Allowable Use Decisions**

#### **Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:**

- Designate the area as *Limited to Designated* (All modes and types of travel, except foot and horse travel and authorized over-the-snow vehicles, would be limited to designated routes and trails).
- Motorized travel will be limited to designated routes that existed at the time the Instant Study Area was designated and to the open sand dunes.
- Close all motorized routes in the zone from December 1 to April 15

Camping:

- Close the North Sand Hills Instant Study Area to overnight camping.

Shooting:

- Close the zone to target shooting. (Refer to recreational target shooting in Recreation section of Chapter 2, Table 2-2, and map in Appendix A.)

Lands and Realty:

- ROW avoidance areas to include developed recreation sites.
- Retain SRMAs and developed recreational sites for long-term management.

Locatable Minerals and other Realty Actions:

- Petition for withdrawal to the Secretary of the Interior from settlement, sale, location or entry under the general land laws, including the mining laws.

Mineral Material (salable) Disposal:

- The SRMA and developed recreation sites would be closed to mineral material disposal.

Mineral Leasing:

- All federal mineral estate within SRMAs would be closed to mineral leasing.

Conditions of Approval for Surface-Disturbing Activities:

- Apply COA restrictions (Appendix D) in the SRMA for the protection of the recreation outcomes and the prescribed recreation setting character conditions.

Visual Resource Management:

- Manage the SRMA under VRM class II objectives unless otherwise managed as VRM Class I.

Special Recreation Permits:

- Issue commercial outfitting and organized group Class I - IV permits that are consistent with zone objectives (AU) (Appendix M). No competitive event permits would be issued.
- Petition the BLM State Director to designate the SRMA as a 'Special Area' for the purpose of initiating a permit system for private users to achieve zone objectives and setting prescriptions (MA). Alternative B Only

## **Implementation Actions Included in the Land Use Plan**

Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:

- Designate individual routes as open or closed.
- On open routes, designate type and mode of travel allowed.

## **Subsequent Implementation-level Planning Guidance**

Management

- Manage the North Sand Hills ISA under the Interim Management Policy and Guidelines for Lands Under Wilderness Review (H-8550-1) until congressional action. If congressional action releases the area from ISA designation then manage the area to meet the SRMA zone objectives and RSC's through the identified Supporting Management Action and Allowable Use Decisions, Implementation Actions and Implementation-level Planning Guidance.
- Work with stakeholders to complete a capacity analysis to determine carrying capacities for the SRMA.
- Develop a campground and/or develop a plan to designate campsites that achieves zone objectives and protects natural and cultural resources.
- Develop a trail plan that maintains the existing density of trail miles per square mile, connects to the Colorado State Forest trail system, meets zone objectives, and is consistent with the Criteria for the Placement of Trails (Appendix P).
- With stakeholder involvement, apply adaptive management (e.g., Limits of Acceptable Change) which focuses on a cycle of *designing-implementing-monitoring-evaluating-adjusting* management actions to achieve zone objectives.

Administration

- Pursue agreements with Jackson County and Colorado State Parks to implement a revenue-sharing fee system to provide necessary EMS and additional law enforcement required to achieve zone objectives.  
**Alternative B Only**
- Pursue agreements with Jackson County to provide necessary EMS and additional law enforcement required to achieve zone objectives.
- Pursue agreements with the North Sand Hills Working Group.
- Pursue an agreement with interested OHV organization to leverage funding, secure volunteer help, and promote sustainable conditions of use. (e.g., American Sand Association, Colorado Off Highway Vehicle Coalition, etc.).
- As one part of a comprehensive funding strategy to support recreation sites and services, the BLM (with partner support) may charge fees for standard or expanded amenity recreation sites and services. Standard or expanded amenity fees are defined in the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA). **Alternative B Only**
- Coordinate with CDOW regarding seasonal and emergency closures for wildlife.

#### Information

- Provide stewardship education/interpretation to help promote responsible motorized recreation (Tread Lightly/Stay the Trail)
- Provide RMZ map at on-site locations that includes information about opportunities, conditions of use, and shows private and public ownership.
- Work with local chambers of commerce, tourism groups and businesses to provide definitive recreation information (i.e., accurate recreation information, user ethics, and use/user expectations) as opposed to promotional marketing.

#### Monitoring

- Develop a monitoring plan to monitor the Instant Study Area to ensure compliance with the Interim Management Policy for Lands under Wilderness Review.
- Monitor recreation setting conditions through on-site patrols from May through September.
- Monitor outcome attainment and preferences through customer assessments (on-site/focus group interviews or visitor studies) on five-year intervals.
- If future monitoring indicates management objectives are not being met, the KFO may create an allocation system for the SRMA.
- When possible, use volunteers to help with on-site monitoring.

### **Recreation Management Zone (RMZ) 1** (Alternative C)

#### **RMZ Outcome Objective:**

Participants in visitor assessments report an average 4.0 realization of the targeted outcomes listed below. (4.0 on a probability scale where: 1 = Not at all realized to 5 = totally realized).

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Experiences</b>	<b>Benefits</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hiking</li><li>• Learning about dune morphology</li><li>• Non-motorized hunting</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Feeling good about the way natural resources are managed</li><li>• Learning more about things here</li></ul>	<p><b>Personal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enhanced awareness &amp; understanding of nature and natural processes</li><li>• Closer relationship with the natural world</li></ul> <p><b>Environmental:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Greater retention of distinctive natural landscape features</li><li>• Increased awareness and protection of natural landscapes</li></ul>

## **Proposed Recreation Setting Characteristics (RSCs)**

### **Proposed Physical RSCs**

- Remoteness: Make the area more remote by reducing motorized routes.
- Naturalness: Naturally appearing landscape except for obvious access roads; maintain existing landscape
- Visitor Facilities: Develop additional facilities (parking and camping areas)

### **Proposed Social RSCs**

- Contacts (avg.): Manage for a season average of 3 - 6 encounters outside parking areas
- Group Size (avg.): Manage for a season average of 4 -6 people per group outside of parking areas
- Evidence of Use: Rehab and reduce signs of use by non-targeted visitors.

### **Proposed Operational RSCs**

- Access (types of travel): All travel off access routes will be non-motorized.
- Visitor Services/Info: Basic information on-site; occasional staff contact and assistance.
- Management Controls: Rules, regulations and ethics clearly posted. Use restrictions, limitations and/or closures may be implemented.

## **Supporting Management Action and Allowable Use Decisions**

### **Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:**

- Designate the area as *Limited to Designated* (All modes and types of travel, except foot and horse travel and authorized over-the-snow vehicles, would be limited to designated routes and trails).
- Close motorized routes (except primary access routes) in the SRMA
- Close all access routes in the zone from December 1 to April 15.

### **Camping:**

- Close the North Sand Hills Instant Study Area to overnight camping.

### **Shooting:**

- Close the zone to target shooting. (Refer to recreational target shooting in Recreation section of Chapter 2, Table 2-2, and map in Appendix A.)

### **Lands and Realty:**

- ROW avoidance areas to include developed recreation sites.
- Retain SRMAs and developed recreational sites for long-term management.

### **Locatable Minerals and other Realty Actions:**

- Petition for withdrawal to the Secretary of the Interior from settlement, sale, location or entry under the general land laws, including the mining laws.

### **Mineral Material (salable) Disposal:**

- The SRMA and developed recreation sites would be closed to mineral material disposal.

### **Mineral Leasing:**

- All federal mineral estate within SRMAs would be closed to mineral leasing.

### **Conditions of Approval for Surface-Disturbing Activities:**

- Apply COA restrictions (Appendix D) in the SRMA for the protection of the recreation outcomes and the prescribed recreation setting character conditions.

### **Visual Resource Management:**

- Manage the SRMA under VRM class II objectives unless otherwise managed as VRM Class I.

### **Special Recreation Permits:**

- Petition the BLM State Director to designate the SRMA as a 'Special Area' for the purpose of initiating a permit system for private users to achieve zone objectives and setting prescriptions (MA).
- Issue commercial outfitting and organized group Class I permits that are consistent with zone objectives (Appendix M).

## **Implementation Actions Included in the Land Use Plan**

### Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:

- Designate individual routes as open or closed.
- On open routes, designate type and mode of travel allowed.

## **Subsequent Implementation-level Planning Guidance**

### Management

- Manage the North Sand Hills ISA under the Interim Management Policy and Guidelines for Lands Under Wilderness Review (H-8550-1) until congressional action. If congressional action releases the area from ISA designation then manage the area to meet the SRMA zone objectives and RSC's through the identified Supporting Management Action and Allowable Use Decisions, Implementation Actions and Implementation-level Planning Guidance.
- Develop the necessary facilities required to meet zone objectives and protect public health and safety (parking areas, campground, interpretation/information boards, toilets, etc.).
- Build the necessary barriers to protect vegetation, water and cultural resources.
- With stakeholder involvement, apply adaptive management (e.g., Limits of Acceptable Change) which focuses on a cycle of *designing-implementing-monitoring-evaluating-adjusting* management actions to achieve zone objectives.

### Administration

- Pursue agreements with interested groups to ensure volunteer help to monitor, protect, restore and interpret natural dune morphology (e.g., Colorado Environmental Coalition, Nature Conservancy, etc).
- Pursue agreements with Jackson County to provide necessary EMS and additional law enforcement required to achieve zone objectives.
- As one part of a comprehensive funding strategy to support recreation sites and services, the BLM (with partner support) may charge fees for standard or expanded amenity recreation sites and services. Standard or expanded amenity fees are defined in the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA).
- Coordinate with CDOW regarding seasonal and emergency closures for wildlife.

### Information

- Provide stewardship education/interpretation to help promote the preservation of natural resources.
- Provide RMZ map at on-site locations that includes information about opportunities, conditions of use, and shows private and public ownership.
- Work with local chambers of commerce, tourism groups and businesses to provide definitive recreation information (i.e., accurate recreation information, user ethics, and use/user expectations) as opposed to promotional marketing.

### Monitoring

- Develop a monitoring plan to monitor the Instant Study Area to ensure compliance with the Interim Management Policy for Lands under Wilderness Review.
- Monitor recreation setting conditions through on-site patrols from May through September.
- Monitor outcome attainment and preferences through customer assessments (on-site/focus group interviews or visitor studies) on five-year intervals.
- If future monitoring indicates management objectives are not being met, the KFO may create an allocation system for the SRMA.
- When possible, use volunteers to help with on-site monitoring.

---

## Strawberry Special Recreation Management Area (Alternatives C and D)

---

### Supporting Information

#### Important Values of the SRMA.

- Public lands in the Strawberry SRMA are valued for their easy access and close proximity to the communities of Tabernash, Fraser, and Granby. Residents of east Grand County enjoy a variety of close-to-home recreation opportunities in the area.

#### Recreation Demand.

- Outside of the big game hunting seasons, the primary visitors are the residents of east Grand County.

#### The General Types of Visitors to be Served.

- The visitor segment is identified as motorcycle trail riders (Alt. D only), hikers, anglers, campers, and hunters.

#### Ability to Manage Recreation Resources.

- Some of the recreation infrastructure is in place (information kiosks, trailheads, signage, resource protection fencing). The existing trail system was primarily created by users and was not designed for sustainable trail riding. Adjacent US Forest Service lands for managed as closed to motorized recreation. A significant commitment of additional resources would be required to complete implementation

---

## Recreation Management Zone (RMZ) 1 (Alternative C)

---

### RMZ Outcome Objective:

Participants in visitor assessments report an average 4.0 realization of the targeted outcomes listed below. (4.0 on a probability scale where: 1 = Not at all realized to 5 = totally realized).

Activities	Experiences	Benefits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Fishing</li><li>Hiking</li><li>Non-Motorized snow sports</li><li>Trail running</li><li>Wildlife Viewing</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Enjoying the areas wildlife, scenery, views and esthetics</li><li>Enjoying having easy access to natural landscapes</li><li>To escape crowds of people</li></ul>	<p><b>Personal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Closer relationship to the natural world</li><li>Better sense of place within my community</li><li>Greater freedom from urban living</li></ul> <p><b>Community/Social:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Greater community involvement in recreation and other land use decisions</li></ul> <p><b>Environmental:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Improved care for community aesthetics</li><li>Increased awareness and protection of natural landscapes</li></ul> <p><b>Economic:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Increased desirability as a place to live or retire</li></ul>

### Proposed Recreation Setting Characteristics (RSCs)

#### Proposed Physical RSCs

- Remoteness: Make the area more remote by limiting motorized access.
- Naturalness: Naturally appearing landscape except for obvious access roads; maintain existing landscape.
- Visitor Facilities: Develop trailheads with parking areas; develop non-motorized single-track trails.

### **Proposed Social RSCs**

- Contacts (avg.): Manage for a season average of 7 - 10 encounters outside parking areas
- Group Size (avg.): Manage for a season average of 4 -6 people per group outside of parking areas
- Evidence of Use: Rehab and reduce signs of use by non-targeted visitors.

### **Proposed Operational RSCs**

- Access (types of travel): All travel within the zone will be closed to motorized travel (except main access routes).
- Visitor Services/Info: Basic information on-site; occasional staff contact and assistance.
- Management Controls: Rules, regulations and ethics clearly posted. Use restrictions, limitations and/or closures may be implemented.

## **Supporting Management Action and Allowable Use Decisions**

### **Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:**

- Designate the area as *Limited to Designated* (All modes and types of travel, except foot and horse travel and authorized over-the-snow vehicles, would be limited to designated routes and trails).
- Close the Behler Creek Road from Labor Day to June 1.
- Close the Hurd Peak and Strawberry Roads to motorized travel (including snowmobiles and over-the-snow motorized vehicles) between December 1 and June 1.

### **Camping:**

- Close the Fraser River Access and Hurd Peak parking areas to overnight camping.

### **Shooting:**

- Close the southern part of the zone to target shooting (AU). (Refer to recreational target shooting in Recreation section of Chapter 2, Table 2-2, and map in Appendix A.)

### **Lands and Realty:**

- ROW avoidance areas to include developed recreation sites.
- Retain SRMAs and developed recreational sites for long-term management.

### **Locatable Minerals and other Realty Actions:**

- Petition for withdrawal to the Secretary of the Interior from settlement, sale, location or entry under the general land laws, including the mining laws.

### **Mineral Material (salable) Disposal:**

- The SRMA and developed recreation sites would be closed to mineral material disposal.

### **Mineral Leasing:**

- All federal mineral estate within SRMAs would be closed to mineral leasing.

### **Conditions of Approval for Surface-Disturbing Activities:**

- COA restrictions (Appendix D) in the SRMA for the protection of the recreation outcomes and the prescribed recreation setting character conditions.

### **Visual Resource Management:**

- Manage the SRMA under VRM class II objectives.

### **Special Recreation Permits:**

- Issue commercial and organized group Class I & II permits that are consistent with zone objectives. Do not issue competitive event permits (see Appendix M).

## **Implementation Actions Included in the Land Use Plan**

### **Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:**

- Designate individual routes as open or closed.
- On open routes, designate type and mode of travel allowed.

## Subsequent Implementation-level Planning Guidance

### Management

- Develop a trail plan that meets zone objectives and is consistent with the Criteria for Placement of Trails (Appendix P).
- Develop minimum necessary parking areas and information boards.
- With stakeholder involvement, apply adaptive management (e.g., Limits of Acceptable Change) which focuses on a cycle of *designing-implementing-monitoring-evaluating-adjusting* management actions to achieve zone objectives.

### Administration

- Pursue agreements with community-based non-motorized/mechanized trail users to develop a trail plan that meets zone objectives.
- Pursue an agreement with a working advisory group from the Fraser Valley and Granby community that will work with BLM on management issues.
- Pursue agreements with CDOW to enhance wildlife habitat.
- Coordinate with CDOW regarding seasonal and emergency closures for wildlife.
- As one part of a comprehensive funding strategy to support recreation sites and services, the BLM (with partner support) may charge fees for standard or expanded amenity recreation sites and services. Standard or expanded amenity fees are defined in the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA).

### Information

- Provide stewardship education/interpretation to help promote natural resource protection.
- Provide RMZ map at on-site locations that includes information about opportunities, conditions of use, and shows private and public ownership.
- Work with local chambers of commerce, tourism groups and businesses to provide definitive recreation information (i.e., accurate recreation information, user ethics, and use/user expectations) as opposed to promotional marketing.

### Monitoring

- Monitor recreation setting conditions through on-site patrols throughout the year.
- Monitor outcome attainment and preferences through customer assessments (on-site/focus group interviews or visitor studies) on five-year intervals.
- If future monitoring indicates management objectives are not being met, the KFO may create an allocation system for the SRMA.
- When possible, use volunteers to help with on-site monitoring.

## **Recreation Management Zone (RMZ) 1** (Alternative D)

### **RMZ Outcome Objective:**

Participants in visitor assessments report an average 4.0 realization of the targeted outcomes listed below. (4.0 on a probability scale where: 1 = Not at all realized to 5 = totally realized).

Activities	Experiences	Benefits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Single-track motorcycle riding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enjoying having easy access to close-to-home outdoor amenities</li> <li>Getting needed physical exercise</li> <li>Releasing or reducing some built-up mental tensions</li> </ul>	<p><b>Personal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Better sense of place within my community</li> <li>Improved physical fitness and health maintenance</li> <li>Restored mind from unwanted stress</li> </ul> <p><b>Community/Social:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Greater community involvement in recreation and other land use decisions</li> </ul> <p><b>Environmental:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved care for community aesthetics</li> <li>Increased awareness and protection of natural landscapes</li> </ul> <p><b>Economic:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased desirability as a place to live or retire</li> </ul>

## Proposed Recreation Setting Characteristics (RSCs)

### Proposed Physical RSCs

- Remoteness: Naturally appearing landscape except for obvious access roads; maintain existing landscape
- Naturalness: Allow a moderate level of change to the naturalness of the SRMA.
- Visitor Facilities: Develop trailheads with parking areas; develop/maintain motorized single-track trails.

### Proposed Social RSCs

- Contacts (avg.): Manage for a season average of 7 - 10 encounters outside parking areas
- Group Size (avg.): Manage for a season average of 4 -6 people per group outside of parking areas
- Evidence of Use: Rehab and reduce signs of use by non-targeted visitors.

### Proposed Operational RSCs

- Access (types of travel): All travel within the zone will be open to motorized travel.
- Visitor Services/Info: Basic information on-site; occasional staff contact and assistance.
- Management Controls: Rules, regulations and ethics clearly posted. Use restrictions, limitations and/or closures may be implemented.

## Supporting Management Action and Allowable Use Decisions

### Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:

- Designate the area as *Limited to Designated* (All modes and types of travel, except foot and horse travel and authorized over-the-snow vehicles, would be limited to designated routes and trails).
- Close the Behler Creek Road from Labor Day to June 1.
- Close the Hurd Peak and Strawberry Roads to motorized travel (including snowmobiles and over-the-snow motorized vehicles) between December 1 and June 1.
- Close Strawberry motorized single track trails between October 1 and June 1

### Camping:

- Close the Fraser River Access and Hurd Peak parking areas to overnight camping.

### Shooting:

- Close the southern part of the zone to target shooting (AU). (Refer to recreational target shooting in Recreation section of Chapter 2, Table 2-2, and map in Appendix A.)

### Lands and Realty:

- ROW avoidance areas to include developed recreation sites.
- Retain SRMAs and developed recreational sites for long-term management.

### Stipulations and Conditions of Approval for Oil and Gas Leasing and Other Surface-Disturbing Activities:

- To protect recreational setting character, recreation activity opportunities, and visitor health and safety in areas of high recreational value and/or significant recreational activity, apply CSU or COA restrictions (Appendices B&D) within the SRMA.
- To protect federal investment in facilities, provide for recreation use, and protect the viewshed from the facility, apply CSU or COA restrictions (Appendices B&D) on developed recreation sites, trails, trailheads, and interpretive sites.

#### Forest Management

- Intensive forest management projects would occur within the SRMA. During project planning and design recreation setting characteristics would be protected wherever possible; however in some cases, recreation setting characteristics may have to be modified within a project area to meet forest management objectives and user safety concerns.

#### Visual Resource Management:

- Manage the SRMA under VRM class III objectives.

#### Special Recreation Permits:

- Issue commercial and organized group Class I & II permits that are consistent with zone objectives. Do not issue competitive event permits (Appendix M).

### **Implementation Actions Included in the Land Use Plan**

#### Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:

- Designate individual routes as open or closed.
- On open routes, designate type and mode of travel allowed.

### **Subsequent Implementation-level Planning Guidance**

#### Management

- Develop a motorized trail plan that maintains the overall existing trail density per square mile, is consistent with the Criteria for Placement of Trails (Appendix P) and meets zone objectives.
- Develop minimum necessary parking areas and information boards.
- With stakeholder involvement, apply adaptive management (e.g., Limits of Acceptable Change) which focuses on a cycle of *designing-implementing-monitoring-evaluating-adjusting* management actions to achieve zone objectives.

#### Administration

- Pursue agreements with community-based motorized trail users to develop a trail plan that meets zone objectives.
- Pursue an agreement with a working advisory group from the Fraser Valley and Granby community that will work with BLM on management issues.
- Coordinate with CDOW regarding seasonal and emergency closures for wildlife.
- As one part of a comprehensive funding strategy to support recreation sites and services, the BLM (with partner support) may charge fees for standard or expanded amenity recreation sites and services. Standard or expanded amenity fees are defined in the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA).

#### Information

- Provide stewardship education/interpretation to help promote responsible motorized recreation (Tread Lightly/Stay the Trail).
- Provide RMZ map at on-site locations that includes information about opportunities, conditions of use, and shows private and public ownership.
- Work with local chambers of commerce, tourism groups and businesses to provide definitive recreation information (i.e., accurate recreation information, user ethics, and use/user expectations) as opposed to promotional marketing.

#### Monitoring

- Monitor recreation setting conditions through on-site patrols throughout the year.
- Monitor outcome attainment and preferences through customer assessments (on-site/focus group interviews or visitor studies) on five-year intervals.
- If future monitoring indicates management objectives are not being met, the KFO may create an allocation system for the SRMA.
- When possible, use volunteers to help with on-site monitoring.

## **Recreation Management Zone (RMZ) 2** (Alternative D)

### **RMZ Outcome Objective:**

Participants in visitor assessments report an average 4.0 realization of the targeted outcomes listed below. (4.0 on a probability scale where: 1 = Not at all realized to 5 = totally realized).

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Experiences</b>	<b>Benefits</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fishing</li><li>• Hiking</li><li>• Non-Motorized snow sports</li><li>• Trail running</li><li>• Mountain Biking</li><li>• Wildlife Viewing</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enjoying the areas wildlife, scenery, views and esthetics</li><li>• Enjoying having easy access to natural landscapes</li><li>• To escape crowds of people</li></ul>	<p><b>Personal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Closer relationship to the natural world</li><li>• Better sense of place within my community</li><li>• Greater freedom from urban living</li></ul> <p><b>Community/Social:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Greater community involvement in recreation and other land use decisions</li></ul> <p><b>Environmental:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improved care for community aesthetics</li><li>• Increased awareness and protection of natural landscapes</li></ul> <p><b>Economic:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increased desirability as a place to live or retire</li></ul>

### **Proposed Recreation Setting Characteristics (RSCs)**

#### **Proposed Physical RSCs**

- Remoteness: Make the area more remote by limiting motorized access.
- Naturalness: Allow a moderate level of change to the naturalness of the SRMA.
- Visitor Facilities: Develop trailheads with parking areas; develop non-motorized single-track trails.

#### **Proposed Social RSCs**

- Contacts (avg.): Manage for a season average of 7 - 10 encounters outside parking areas
- Group Size (avg.): Manage for a season average of 4 -6 people per group outside of parking areas
- Evidence of Use: Rehab and reduce signs of use by non-targeted visitors.

#### **Proposed Operational RSCs**

- Access (types of travel): All travel within the zone will be closed to motorized travel (except main access routes).
- Visitor Services/Info: Basic information on-site; occasional staff contact and assistance.
- Management Controls: Rules, regulations and ethics clearly posted. Use restrictions, limitations and/or closures may be implemented.

### **Supporting Management Action and Allowable Use Decisions**

Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:

- Designate the area as *Limited to Designated* (All modes and types of travel, except foot and horse travel and authorized over-the-snow vehicles, would be limited to designated routes and trails).
- Close the Behler Creek Road from Labor Day to June 1.
- Close the Hurd Peak and Strawberry Roads to motorized travel (including snowmobiles and over-the-snow motorized vehicles) between December 1 and June 1.

Camping:

- Close the Fraser River Access and Hurd Peak parking areas to overnight camping.

Shooting:

- Close the southern part of the zone to target shooting (AU). (Refer to recreational target shooting in Recreation section of Chapter 2, Table 2-2, and map in Appendix A.)

Lands and Realty:

- ROW avoidance areas to include developed recreation sites.
- Retain SRMAs and developed recreational sites for long-term management.

Stipulations and Conditions of Approval for Oil and Gas Leasing and Other Surface-Disturbing Activities:

- To protect recreational setting character, recreation activity opportunities, and visitor health and safety in areas of high recreational value and/or significant recreational activity, apply CSU and/or COA restrictions (Appendices B&D) within the SRMA.
- To protect federal investment in facilities, provide for recreation use, and protect the viewshed from the facility, apply CSU and/or COA restrictions (Appendices B&D) on developed recreation sites, trails, trailheads, and interpretive sites.

Visual Resource Management:

- Manage the SRMA under VRM class III objectives.

Special Recreation Permits:

- Issue commercial and organized group Class I & II permits that are consistent with zone objectives. Do not issue competitive event permits (Appendix M).

## **Implementation Actions Included in the Land Use Plan**

Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:

- Designate individual routes as open or closed.
- On open routes, designate type and mode of travel allowed.

## **Subsequent Implementation-level Planning Guidance**

Management

- Develop a trail plan that meets zone objectives and is consistent with the Criteria for Placement of Trails (Appendix P).
- Develop minimum necessary parking areas and information boards.
- With stakeholder involvement, apply adaptive management (e.g., Limits of Acceptable Change) which focuses on a cycle of *designing-implementing-monitoring-evaluating-adjusting* management actions to achieve zone objectives.

Administration

- Pursue agreements with community-based non-motorized/mechanized trail users to develop a trail plan that meets zone objectives.
- Pursue an agreement with a working advisory group from the Fraser Valley and Granby community that will work with BLM on management issues.
- Pursue agreements with CDOW to enhance wildlife habitat.
- Coordinate with CDOW regarding seasonal and emergency closures for wildlife.
- As one part of a comprehensive funding strategy to support recreation sites and services, the BLM (with partner support) may charge fees for standard or expanded amenity recreation sites and services.

Standard or expanded amenity fees are defined in the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA).

Information

- Provide stewardship education/interpretation to help promote natural resource protection.
- Provide RMZ map at on-site locations that includes information about opportunities, conditions of use, and shows private and public ownership.
- Work with local chambers of commerce, tourism groups and businesses to provide definitive recreation information (i.e., accurate recreation information, user ethics, and use/user expectations) as opposed to promotional marketing.

Monitoring

- Monitor recreation setting conditions through on-site patrols throughout the year.
- Monitor outcome attainment and preferences through customer assessments (on-site/focus group interviews or visitor studies) on five-year intervals.
- If future monitoring indicates management objectives are not being met, the KFO may create an allocation system for the SRMA.
- When possible, use volunteers to help with on-site monitoring.

---

## Upper Colorado River Special Recreation Management Area (Alternatives B, C and D)

---

### Supporting Information

#### Important Values of the SRMA.

- Public lands along the Colorado River corridor offer visitors outstanding opportunities for float boating, trout fishing, and scenic driving. This corridor attracts visitors both within and beyond the region. Adjacent destination tourism markets in Grand, Summit, Eagle, and Routt Counties currently market the recreational opportunities.

#### Recreation Demand.

- The primary visitors are a mix of Colorado residents and visitors to regional resort areas.

#### The General Types of Visitors to be Served.

- The visitor segment is identified as scenic tourists, rafters, kayakers and trout anglers in all recreation management zones.

#### Ability to Manage Recreation Resources.

- The recreation infrastructure (e.g. river access, parking areas, campgrounds and restrooms) are created and meeting current demand. Recreation use may increase due to possible Wild and Scenic River suitability/designation (Alternatives B and C) or unlimited commercial river-related SRPs (Alternative D). This would require the expansion of some recreational facilities especially parking areas, campgrounds and boat launches. Additional BLM funding might be needed to support on-the-ground BLM staff and maintenance of facilities. The effectiveness of managing recreation resources over the long-term will depend on having: (a) an assurance that gateway communities (businesses, chambers, tourism organizations and local governments) would market the SRMA responsibility and accurately; (b) a commitment that local users/ partners are available to provide on-the-ground support; (c) sufficient funding and staff to implement the planning decisions and the necessary site specific implementation actions; and (d) there are adequate flows in the river to support the targeted activities.

---

## Recreation Management Zone (RMZ) 1 – Parshall to Kremmling (Alternative D Only)

---

### RMZ Outcome Objective

Participants in visitor assessments report an average 4.0 realization of the targeted outcomes listed below. (4.0 on a probability scale where: 1 = Not at all realized to 5 = totally realized).

Activities	Experiences	Benefits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Wade fishing</li><li>Scenic Touring</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Escaping everyday responsibilities for a while</li><li>Enjoying the area's wildlife, scenery and views</li><li>Enjoying time with family/friends</li></ul>	<p><b>Personal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Greater freedom from urban living</li><li>Closer relationship with the natural world</li></ul> <p><b>Community:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Strengthening ties with family/friends</li></ul> <p><b>Environmental:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Increased awareness and protection of natural landscapes and wildlife</li><li>Greater protection of fish, wildlife, and plant habitat from growth, development, and public use impacts</li></ul> <p><b>Economic:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Increased stability to local-regional economy</li></ul>

## **Proposed Recreation Setting Characteristics (RSCs)**

### **Proposed Physical RSCs:**

#### Remoteness:

- Maintain existing remoteness (restrict motorized travel to access roads and parking areas)

#### Naturalness:

- The level of change to the characteristic natural landscape is low. Any modifications (e.g. ROWs, fences, ponds) are not visually obvious or evident.

#### Visitor Facilities:

- Maintain current access roads and parking areas; maintain and improve river access trails

### **Proposed Social RSCs:**

#### Contacts (avg.):

- Participants will encounter a season average 6 – 10 encounters/day outside parking areas.

#### Group Size (avg.):

- Participants will encounter a season average 4 – 8 people per group outside of parking areas.

#### Evidence of Use:

- Sounds of other people occasionally heard. Small localized areas of vegetation alteration and compacted/bare soils are found along access trails and parking areas. Inappropriate recreation use is rehabilitated.

### **Proposed Operational RSCs:**

#### Access (types of travel):

- Reduce/limit motorized routes.

#### Visitor Services/Info:

- Basic information on-site; occasional staff contact and assistance.

#### Management Controls:

- Rules, regulations and ethics clearly posted. Use restrictions, limitations and/or closures may be implemented.

## **Supporting Management Action and Allowable Use Decisions**

### Camping:

- Close all fishing access sites to overnight camping.

### Shooting:

- Close the area within 0.25-mile of the river and the fishing accesses to target shooting. (Refer to recreational target shooting in Recreation section of Chapter 2, Table 2-2, and map in Appendix A.)

### Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:

- Designate the area as *Limited to Designated* (All modes and types of travel, except foot and horse travel and authorized over-the-snow vehicles, would be limited to designated routes and trails).

### Lands and Realty:

- ROW avoidance areas to include developed recreation sites.
- Retain SRMAs and developed recreational sites for long-term management.

### Locatable Minerals and other Realty Actions:

- Petition for withdrawal to the Secretary of the Interior the following areas from settlement, sale, location or entry under the general land laws, including the mining laws.

### Mineral Material (salable) Disposal:

- The SRMA and developed recreation sites would be closed to mineral material disposal.

### Mineral Leasing:

- All federal mineral estate within SRMAs would be closed to mineral leasing.

### Conditions of Approval for Surface-Disturbing Activities:

- Apply COA restrictions (Appendix D) in the SRMA for the protection of the recreation outcomes and the prescribed recreation setting character conditions.

Visual Resource Management:

- Manage the SRMA under VRM class II objectives.

Special Recreation Permits:

- Only issue Class I special recreation permits that are consistent with zone objectives (Appendix M).

## **Implementation Actions Included in the Land Use Plan**

Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:

- Designate individual routes as open or closed.
- On open routes, designate type and mode of travel allowed.

## **Subsequent Implementation-level Planning Guidance**

Management

- Develop the necessary trail system to provide visitor access to fishing sites within the zone (MA).
- Develop the necessary river access facilities (parking areas, toilet facilities, etc.) to ensure health and safety.
- With stakeholder involvement, apply adaptive management (e.g., Limits of Acceptable Change) which focuses on a cycle of *designing-implementing-monitoring-evaluating-adjusting* management actions to achieve zone objectives.
- Use vegetation treatments to enhance naturalness in the physical setting. (Including mechanical treatments, prescribed fire, commercial timber harvest, noxious weed treatments)

Administration

- Continue partnership with Colorado Headwaters National Scenic Byway committee to develop and implement an interpretive plan for the scenic byway.
- Pursue agreements with Trout Unlimited and Colorado Division of Wildlife to develop a partnership to leverage funding, improve fish habitat and conduct monitoring
- As one part of a comprehensive funding strategy to support recreation sites and services, the BLM (with partner support) may charge fees for standard or expanded amenity recreation sites and services. Standard or expanded amenity fees are defined in the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA).

Information and Education

- Provide stewardship education/interpretation to help preserve the water quality, fisheries, and riparian areas
- Provide RMZ map at on-site locations that includes information about opportunities, conditions of use, and shows private and public ownership.
- Work with local chambers of commerce, tourism boards and commercial businesses to develop accurate information regarding targeted recreation opportunities

Monitoring

- Monitor outcome attainment and preferences through customer assessments (e.g. focus group interviews or visitor studies) on five year intervals or as funding allows. Monitor activity participation and RSCs annually during the primary use season of June through September.
- If future monitoring indicates management objectives are not being met, the KFO may create an allocation system for the SRMA.

## Recreation Management Zone (RMZ) 2 – Gore Canyon

### RMZ Outcome Objective

Participants in visitor assessments report an average 4.0 realization of the targeted outcomes listed below. (4.0 on a probability scale where: 1 = Not at all realized to 5 = totally realized).

Activities	Experiences	Benefits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Wade fishing</li><li>Whitewater rafting</li><li>Whitewater kayaking</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Enjoying frequent access to outdoor physical activity</li><li>Experiencing the natural surroundings</li><li>Experiencing adventure and excitement</li></ul>	<p><b>Personal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Enhanced sense of personal freedom</li><li>Improved physical fitness and health maintenance</li></ul> <p><b>Community:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Lifestyle improvement or maintenance</li><li>Greater community ownership and stewardship of natural resources</li></ul> <p><b>Environmental:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Greater protection of fish, wildlife, and plant habitat from growth, development, and public use impacts.</li><li>Preservation of this special landscape character</li></ul> <p><b>Economic:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Increased local tourism revenue</li></ul>

### Proposed Recreation Setting Characteristics (RSCs)

#### Proposed Physical RSCs:

##### Remoteness:

- Make the area more remote by making it less accessible to motorized vehicles.

##### Naturalness:

- Maintain the existing landscape (rural/agrarian landscape with minimum development along the river through Gore Canyon).

##### Visitor Facilities:

- Maintained and marked river access trails; improved parking, toilet facilities and boat slide.

#### Proposed Social RSCs:

##### Contacts (avg.):

- Manage for a season average of 6 – 10 encounters on the river **Alternatives B & C Only**
- Manage for a season average of 15 - 20 encounters on the river **Alternatives D Only**

##### Group Size (avg.):

- Manage for a season average of 18 - 25 people per group on the river **Alternatives B & D Only**
- Manage for a season average of 10 -16 people per group on the river **Alternatives C Only**

##### Evidence of Use:

- Sounds of other people occasionally heard. Small localized areas of vegetation alteration and compacted/bare soils are found along access trails and parking areas. Inappropriate recreation use is rehabilitated.

#### Proposed Operational RSCs:

##### Access (types of travel):

- Reduce/limit motorized routes.

##### Visitor Services/Info:

- Information about activities and Gore Canyon at the confluence site; personnel occasionally on-site.

##### Management Controls:

- Rules, regulations and ethics clearly posted. Use restrictions, permits, limitations and/or closures may be implemented.

## **Supporting Management Action and Allowable Use Decisions**

### Camping:

- Close the Confluence Recreation Site to overnight camping.

### Shooting:

- Close the area within 0.25-mile of the river, the Confluence Recreation Site and Inspiration Point to target shooting. (Refer to recreational target shooting in Recreation section of Chapter 2, Table 2-2, and map in Appendix A.)

### Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:

- Designate the area as *Limited to Designated* (All modes and types of travel, except foot and horse travel and authorized over-the-snow vehicles, would be limited to designated routes and trails).
- Close all roads and trails that access the river to motorized and mechanized use.
- Close the river to motorized travel.

### Lands and Realty:

- ROW avoidance areas to include developed recreation sites.
- Retain SRMAs and developed recreational sites for long-term management.

### Locatable Minerals and other Realty Actions:

- Petition for withdrawal to the Secretary of the Interior the following areas from settlement, sale, location or entry under the general land laws, including the mining laws.

### Mineral Material (salable) Disposal:

- The SRMA and developed recreation sites would be closed to mineral material disposal.

### Mineral Leasing:

- All federal mineral estate within SRMAs would be closed to mineral leasing.

### Conditions of Approval for Surface-Disturbing Activities:

- Apply COA restrictions (Appendix D) in the SRMA for the protection of the recreation outcomes and the prescribed recreation setting character conditions.

### Visual Resource Management:

- Manage the SRMA under VRM class II objectives.

### Special Recreation Permits:

#### Alternative B:

- Within the zone issue Class I, II, & III permits that are consistent with zone objectives (Appendix M).
- Limit event permits to two events per year with a maximum of 200 participants per event.
- Designate the zone as a 'Special Area' for the purpose of initiating a permit system for private users to achieve management objectives and setting prescriptions
- Maintain the number of river-related permits at current number. (This would include river support services; e.g. shuttles, rentals, etc.) *Use a prospectus process to reissue permits that have been relinquished or cancelled for administrative purposes (e.g. non-use, disciplinary actions, etc.).*

#### Alternative C:

- Within the zone issue Class I and II permits that are consistent with zone objectives (Appendix M).
- Designate the zone as a 'Special Area' for the purpose of initiating a permit system for private users to achieve management objectives and setting prescriptions
- Reduce the number of river-related permits to a number less than current. (This would include river support services; e.g. shuttles, rentals, etc.) *Achieve reduction in permit numbers through not reissuing new permits when permits are relinquished or cancelled for administrative purposes (e.g. non-use, disciplinary actions, etc.).*
- Maintain existing authorized locations and activities for river-related permits. (This would include river support services; e.g. shuttles, rentals, etc.)
- Limit commercial trip raft trips to 25 people (including guides).

#### Alternative D:

- Within the zone issue Class I, II, III, & IV permits that are consistent with zone objectives (Appendix M).

- To the extent the social setting characteristics and natural resource conditions are being met, issue river-related permits on demand. (This would include river support services; e.g. shuttles, rentals, etc.)
- To the extent the social setting characteristics and natural resource conditions are being met, expand authorized locations and activities to river-related permits on demand. (This would include river support services; e.g. shuttles, rentals, etc.)

## Implementation Actions Included in the Land Use Plan

### Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:

- Designate individual routes as open or closed.
- On open routes, designate type and mode of travel allowed.

## Subsequent Implementation-level Planning Guidance

### Management

- Work with stakeholders and CRVFO to complete a capacity analysis to determine carry capacities and group size limits. **Alternatives B & C only**
- Use findings of capacity analysis to consider expanding authorized locations and activities for river-related SRPs. (This would include river support services; e.g. shuttles, rentals, etc.) **Alternative B only**
- Develop the necessary trail system to provide visitor access to Gore Canyon.
- Develop the necessary river access facilities (parking areas, toilet facilities, etc) to ensure health and safety.
- With stakeholder involvement, apply adaptive management (e.g., Limits of Acceptable Change) which focuses on a cycle of *designing-implementing-monitoring-evaluating-adjusting* management actions to achieve zone objectives.
- Use vegetation treatments to enhance naturalness in the physical setting. (Including mechanical treatments, prescribed fire, commercial timber harvest, noxious weed treatments)

### Administration

- Pursue an agreement with railroad to resolve access issues adjacent to rapids in Gore Canyon
- Establish and partner with an on-going working group of interested parties (private & commercial) to work with and advise BLM on issues within the zone
- Pursue agreements with Trout Unlimited and Colorado Division of Wildlife to develop a partnership to leverage funding, improve fish habitat and conduct monitoring
- As one part of a comprehensive funding strategy to support recreation sites and services, the BLM (with partner support) may charge fees for standard or expanded amenity recreation sites and services. Standard or expanded amenity fees are defined in the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA).

### Information and Education

- Provide stewardship education/interpretation to help preserve the water quality, fisheries, and riparian areas
- Provide RMZ map at on-site locations that includes information about opportunities, conditions of use, and shows private and public ownership.
- Work with local chambers of commerce, tourism boards and commercial businesses to develop accurate information regarding targeted recreation opportunities

### Monitoring

- Monitor outcome attainment and preferences through customer assessments (e.g. focus group interviews or visitor studies) on five year intervals or as funding allows. Monitor activity participation and RSCs annually during the primary use season of June through September.
- If future monitoring indicates management objectives are not being met, the KFO may create an allocation system for the SRMA.

## Recreation Management Zone (RMZ) 3 – Pumphouse to State Bridge

### RMZ Outcome Objective (Alternative B & D)

Participants in visitor assessments report an average 4.0 realization of the targeted outcomes listed below. (4.0 on a probability scale where: 1 = Not at all realized to 5 = totally realized).

Activities	Experiences	Benefits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Camping</li> <li>Fishing</li> <li>Floatboating</li> <li>Kayaking</li> <li>Hiking</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enjoying frequent access to outdoor physical activity</li> <li>Experiencing the natural surroundings</li> <li>Enjoying the area's wildlife, scenery and views</li> <li>Enjoying time with family/friends</li> </ul>	<p><b>Personal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Living a more outdoor-oriented lifestyle</li> <li>Closer relationship with the natural world</li> <li>Developing stronger ties with family and friends</li> </ul> <p><b>Community:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Greater community involvement in recreation and other land use decisions</li> </ul> <p><b>Environmental:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased awareness and protection of natural landscapes</li> <li>Increased stewardship and protection of river corridor</li> </ul> <p><b>Economic:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased local tourism revenue</li> <li>Increased stability to local-regional economy</li> </ul>

### RMZ Outcome Objective (Alternative C)

Participants in visitor assessments report an average 4.0 realization of the targeted outcomes listed below. (4.0 on a probability scale where: 1 = Not at all realized to 5 = totally realized).

Activities	Experiences	Benefits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Camping</li> <li>Fishing</li> <li>Floatboating</li> <li>Kayaking</li> <li>Hiking</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Experiencing the natural surroundings</li> <li>Enjoying the area's wildlife, scenery and views</li> <li>Enjoying time with family/friends</li> <li>Escaping everyday responsibilities for awhile</li> <li>To escape the crowds</li> </ul>	<p><b>Personal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Living a more outdoor-oriented lifestyle</li> <li>Closer relationship with the natural world</li> <li>Developing stronger ties with family and friends</li> </ul> <p><b>Community:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Greater community involvement in recreation and other land use decisions</li> </ul> <p><b>Environmental:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased awareness and protection of natural landscapes</li> <li>Increased stewardship and protection of river corridor</li> </ul>

### Proposed Recreation Setting Characteristics (RSCs)

#### Proposed Physical RSCs:

##### Remoteness:

- Make the area more remote by making it less accessible to motorized vehicles.

##### Naturalness:

- Natural landscape has few modifications in harmony with surroundings and not visually obvious.

Visitor Facilities:

- Maintain improved facilities (campground, toilets, boat ramps, and parking areas), occasional interpretive displays at river access points.
- Make the river corridor more primitive by removing pit privies, fire rings and picnic tables. **Alternatives B & C Only**
- Develop and maintain additional facilities within the river corridor (e.g. pit privies, fire rings and picnic tables). **Alternative D Only**

**Proposed Social RSCs:**

Contacts (avg.):

- Manage for a season average of 6 – 10 encounters on the river **Alternative C Only**
- Manage for a season average of 11 - 20 encounters on the river **Alternative B Only**
- Manage for a season average of 21 - 30 encounters on the river **Alternative D Only**

Group Size (avg.):

- Manage for a season average of 6 – 10 people per group on the river **Alternative C Only**
- Manage for a season average of 11 - 20 people per group on the river **Alternative B Only**
- Manage for a season average of 21 - 30 people per group on the river **Alternative D Only**

Evidence of Use:

- Sounds of other people occasionally heard. Small localized areas of vegetation alteration and compacted/bare soils are found along access trails, campsites and parking areas. Inappropriate recreation use is rehabilitated.

**Proposed Operational RSCs:**

Access (types of travel):

- Reduce/limit motorized routes.

Visitor Services/Info:

- Information describing opportunities on-site and frequent staff contact and assistance.

Management Controls:

- Rules, regulations and ethics clearly posted. Use restrictions, permits, limitations and/or closures may be implemented.

**Supporting Management Action and Allowable Use Decisions**

Camping:

- Require portable toilet systems and fire pans for all overnight camping within 500 feet of the river.
- Close the area around the Yarmony Pit House to overnight camping.

Shooting:

- Close the area within 0.25-mile of the river to target shooting. (Refer to recreational target shooting in Recreation section of Chapter 2, Table 2-2, and map in Appendix A.)

Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:

- Designate the area as *Limited to Designated* (All modes and types of travel, except foot and horse travel and authorized over-the-snow vehicles, would be limited to designated routes and trails).
- Close all roads and trails that access the river to motorized and mechanized use.
- Close the river to motorized travel.

Lands and Realty:

- ROW avoidance areas to include developed recreation sites.
- Retain SRMAs and developed recreational sites for long-term management.

Locatable Minerals and other Realty Actions:

- Petition for withdrawal to the Secretary of the Interior the following areas from settlement, sale, location or entry under the general land laws, including the mining laws.

Mineral Material (salable) Disposal:

- The SRMA and developed recreation sites would be closed to mineral material disposal.

Mineral Leasing:

- All federal mineral estate within SRMAs would be closed to mineral leasing.

Conditions of Approval for Surface-Disturbing Activities:

- Apply COA restrictions (Appendix D) in the SRMA for the protection of the recreation outcomes and the prescribed recreation setting character conditions.

Visual Resource Management:

- Manage the SRMA under VRM class II objectives.

Special Recreation Permits:

Alternative B:

- Within the zone issue Class I, II, & III permits that are consistent with zone objectives (Appendix M).
- Limit event permits to two events per year with a maximum of 200 participants per event.
- Designate the zone as a 'Special Area' for the purpose of initiating a permit system for private users to achieve management objectives and setting prescriptions
- Maintain the number of river-related permits at current number. (This would include river support services; e.g. shuttles, rentals, etc.) *Use a prospectus process to reissue permits that have been relinquished or cancelled for administrative purposes (e.g. non-use, disciplinary actions, etc.).*

Alternative C:

- Within the zone issue Class I and II permits that are consistent with zone objectives (Appendix M).
- Designate the zone as a 'Special Area' for the purpose of initiating a permit system for private users to achieve management objectives and setting prescriptions
- Reduce the number of river-related permits to a number less than current. (This would include river support services; e.g. shuttles, rentals, etc.) *Achieve reduction in permit numbers through not reissuing new permits when permits are relinquished or cancelled for administrative purposes (e.g. non-use, disciplinary actions, etc.).*
- Maintain existing authorized locations and activities for river-related permits. (This would include river support services; e.g. shuttles, rentals, etc.)
- Limit commercial trip raft trips to 25 people (including guides).

Alternative D:

- Within the zone issue Class I, II, III, & IV permits that are consistent with zone objectives (Appendix M).
- To the extent the social setting characteristics and natural resource conditions are being met, issue river-related permits on demand. (This would include river support services; e.g. shuttles, rentals, etc.)
- To the extent the social setting characteristics and natural resource conditions are being met, expand authorized locations and activities to river-related permits on demand. (This would include river support services; e.g. shuttles, rentals, etc.)

## Implementation Actions Included in the Land Use Plan

Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:

- Designate individual routes as open or closed.
- On open routes, designate type and mode of travel allowed.

## Subsequent Implementation-level Planning Guidance

Management

- Work with stakeholders and CRVFO to complete a capacity analysis to determine carry capacities and group size limits. **Alternatives B & C only**
- Use findings of capacity analysis to consider expanding authorized locations and activities for river-related SRPs. (This would include river support services; e.g. shuttles, rentals, etc.) **Alternative B only**
- Develop the necessary trail system to provide visitor access to the river and interpretive sites.
- Develop the necessary river access facilities (parking areas, toilet facilities, etc.) to ensure health and safety.

- With stakeholder involvement, apply adaptive management (e.g., Limits of Acceptable Change) which focuses on a cycle of *designing-implementing-monitoring-evaluating-adjusting* management actions to achieve zone objectives.
- Use vegetation treatments to enhance naturalness in the physical setting. (Including mechanical treatments, prescribed fire, commercial timber harvest, noxious weed treatments)

#### Administration

- Establish and partner with an on-going working group of interested parties (private & commercial) to work with and advise BLM on issues within the zone.
- Pursue agreements with Trout Unlimited and Colorado Division of Wildlife to develop a partnership to leverage funding, improve fish habitat and conduct monitoring.
- Pursue agreements with universities and heritage organizations to survey, inventory, interpret and monitor heritage resources.
- As one part of a comprehensive funding strategy to support recreation sites and services, the BLM (with partner support) may charge fees for standard or expanded amenity recreation sites and services. Standard or expanded amenity fees are defined in the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA).

#### Information and Education

- Provide stewardship education/interpretation to help preserve the water quality, fisheries, and riparian areas
- Provide RMZ map at on-site locations that includes information about opportunities, conditions of use, and shows private and public ownership.
- Work with local chambers of commerce, tourism boards and commercial businesses to develop accurate information regarding targeted recreation opportunities.

#### Monitoring

- Monitor outcome attainment and preferences through customer assessments (e.g. focus group interviews or visitor studies) on five year intervals or as funding allows. Monitor activity participation and RSCs annually during the primary use season of June through September.
- If future monitoring indicates management objectives are not being met, the KFO may create an allocation system for the SRMA.

### **Recreation Management Zone (RMZ) 4 – Yarmony Jeep Trail (Alternative D)**

#### **RMZ Outcome Objective**

Participants in visitor assessments report an average 4.0 realization of the targeted outcomes listed below. (4.0 on a probability scale where: 1 = Not at all realized to 5 = totally realized).

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Experiences</b>	<b>Benefits</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Extreme Jeeping</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Testing equipment and skills</li><li>• Enjoying time with families and friends</li></ul>	<p><b>Personal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improved skills for outdoor enjoyment</li><li>• Stronger ties with family and friends</li></ul> <p><b>Community:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Greater family bonding</li></ul> <p><b>Environmental:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Greater community ownership and stewardship of park, recreation, and natural resources</li></ul> <p><b>Economic:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increased local tourism revenue</li></ul>

#### **Proposed Physical RSCs:**

##### Naturalness:

- Natural landscape has few modifications in harmony with surroundings and not visually obvious.

Visitor Facilities:

- Improved facilities (parking, loading/unloading areas, toilets)

**Proposed Social RSCs:**

Contacts (avg.):

- Manage for a season average of 7 -10 encounters off the Trough Road

Group Size (avg.):

- Manage for a season average of 13 -17 people per group off the Trough Road

Evidence of Use:

- Sounds of other people occasionally heard. Small localized areas of vegetation alteration and compacted/bare soils are found along trails and parking areas. Inappropriate recreation use is rehabilitated.

**Proposed Operational RSCs:**

Access (types of travel):

- Developed trails for off-road jeeping.

Visitor Services/Info:

- Information on jeep trail on-site; personnel occasionally on site for assistance.

Management Controls:

- Rules, regulations and ethics clearly posted. Use restrictions, permits, limitations and/or closures may be implemented.

**Supporting Management Action and Allowable Use Decisions**

Camping:

- Close the zone to overnight camping.

Shooting:

- Close the area within 0.25-mile of the river to target shooting. (Refer to recreational target shooting in Recreation section of Chapter 2, Table 2-2, and map in Appendix A.)

Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:

- Designate the area as *Limited to Designated* (All modes and types of travel, except foot and horse travel and authorized over-the-snow vehicles, would be limited to designated routes and trails).

Lands and Realty:

- ROW avoidance areas to include developed recreation sites.
- Retain SRMAs and developed recreational sites for long-term management.

Locatable Minerals and other Realty Actions:

- Petition for withdrawal to the Secretary of the Interior the following areas from settlement, sale, location or entry under the general land laws, including the mining laws.

Mineral Material (salable) Disposal:

- The SRMA and developed recreation sites would be closed to mineral material disposal.

Mineral Leasing:

- All federal mineral estate within SRMAs would be closed to mineral leasing.

Conditions of Approval for Surface-Disturbing Activities:

- Apply COA restrictions (Appendix D) in the SRMA for the protection of the recreation outcomes and the prescribed recreation setting character conditions.

Visual Resource Management:

- Manage the SRMA under VRM class II objectives.

Special Recreation Permits:

- Within the zone issue Class I organized group permits (no commercial permits) that are consistent with zone objectives.
- Designate the zone as a 'Special Area' for the purpose of initiating a permit system for private users to achieve management objectives and setting prescriptions

## **Implementation Actions Included in the Land Use Plan**

### Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:

- Designate individual routes as open or closed.
- On open routes, designate type and mode of travel allowed.

## **Subsequent Implementation-level Planning Guidance**

### Management

- Design and construct a sustainable extreme jeep trail
- Develop the minimum necessary support facilities for trail users (parking areas, toilet facilities)
- Use vegetation treatments to enhance naturalness in the physical setting. (Including mechanical treatments, prescribed fire, commercial timber harvest, noxious weed treatments)
- With stakeholder involvement, apply adaptive management (e.g., Limits of Acceptable Change) which focuses on a cycle of *designing-implementing-monitoring-evaluating-adjusting* management actions to achieve zone objectives.

### Administration

- Enter an agreement with commercial shops and volunteers that will adopt the jeep trail for construction, maintenance and monitoring
- As one part of a comprehensive funding strategy to support recreation sites and services, the BLM (with partner support) may charge fees for standard or expanded amenity recreation sites and services. Standard or expanded amenity fees are defined in the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA).

### Information

- Provide stewardship education/interpretation to help promote responsible motorized recreation (Tread Lightly/Stay the Trail)
- Provide RMZ map at on-site locations that includes information about opportunities, conditions of use, and shows private and public ownership.
- Work with local chambers of commerce, tourism boards and commercial businesses to develop accurate information regarding targeted recreation opportunities.

### Monitoring

- Monitor outcome attainment and preferences through customer assessments (e.g. focus group interviews or visitor studies) on five year intervals or as funding allows. Monitor activity participation and RSCs annually during the primary use season of June through September.
- If future monitoring indicates management objectives are not being met, the KFO may create an allocation system for the SRMA.

## **Recreation Management Zone (RMZ) 5 – Gore Canyon Ranch (Alternative B)**

### **RMZ Outcome Objective**

Participants in visitor assessments report an average 4.0 realization of the targeted outcomes listed below. (4.0 on a probability scale where: 1 = Not at all realized to 5 = totally realized).

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Experiences</b>	<b>Benefits</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Wildlife viewing</li><li>• Hiking</li><li>• Fishing</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Learning more about the area's past and its resources</li><li>• Contributing to the sustainable management of the area</li><li>• Enjoying nature and the natural surroundings</li><li>• Enjoying time with families and friends</li></ul>	<p><b>Personal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improved knowledge of natural and cultural resources</li><li>• Stronger ties with family and friends</li></ul> <p><b>Community:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enhanced education opportunities</li></ul> <p><b>Environmental:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Greater community ownership and stewardship of park, recreation, and natural/cultural resources</li></ul>

#### **Proposed Physical RSCs:**

##### Naturalness:

- Natural landscape has few modifications in harmony with surroundings and not visually obvious; enhanced wildlife habitat

##### Visitor Facilities:

- Improved facilities (parking, accessible trails, interpretive signs and displays, toilets)

#### **Proposed Social RSCs:**

##### Contacts (avg.):

- Manage for a season average of 7 -10 encounters outside the parking areas

##### Evidence of Use:

- Sounds of other people occasionally heard. Small localized areas of vegetation alteration and compacted/bare soils are found along trails and parking areas. Inappropriate recreation use is rehabilitated.

#### **Proposed Operational RSCs:**

##### Access (types of travel):

- Non-motorized outside parking areas

##### Visitor Services/Info:

- Information trails on-site; Interpretation panels of cultural and natural resources on-site; personnel occasionally on site for assistance.

##### Management Controls:

- Rules, regulations and ethics clearly posted. Use restrictions, permits, limitations and/or closures may be implemented.

### **Supporting Management Action and Allowable Use Decisions**

##### Camping:

- Close the zone to overnight camping.

##### Shooting:

- Close the zone to target shooting. (Refer to recreational target shooting in Recreation section of Chapter 2, Table 2-2, and map in Appendix A.)

Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:

- Designate the area as *Limited to Designated* (All modes and types of travel, except foot and horse travel and authorized over-the-snow vehicles, would be limited to designated routes and trails).
- Close all roads and trails that access the river to motorized and mechanized use

Lands and Realty:

- ROW avoidance areas to include developed recreation sites.
- Retain SRMAs and developed recreational sites for long-term management.

Locatable Minerals and other Realty Actions:

- Petition for withdrawal to the Secretary of the Interior the following areas from settlement, sale, location or entry under the general land laws, including the mining laws.

Mineral Material (salable) Disposal:

- The SRMA and developed recreation sites would be closed to mineral material disposal.

Mineral Leasing:

- All federal mineral estate within SRMAs would be closed to mineral leasing.

Conditions of Approval for Surface-Disturbing Activities:

- Apply COA restrictions (Appendix D) in the SRMA for the protection of the recreation outcomes and the prescribed recreation setting character conditions.

Visual Resource Management:

- Manage the SRMA under VRM class II objectives.

Special Recreation Permits:

- Within the zone issue Class I and II permits that are consistent with zone objectives.
- Designate the zone as a 'Special Area' for the purpose of initiating a permit system for private users to achieve management objectives and setting prescriptions.

## **Implementation Actions Included in the Land Use Plan**

Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:

- Designate individual routes as open or closed.
- On open routes, designate type and mode of travel allowed.

## **Subsequent Implementation-level Planning Guidance**

Management

- Restore and enhance wildlife habitat in the zone
- Design and construct an accessible trail system
- Develop an interpretive trail system with connectivity to Zone 3
- Develop the minimum necessary support facilities for users (parking areas, toilet facilities, interpretive signs)
- With stakeholder involvement, apply adaptive management (e.g., Limits of Acceptable Change) which focuses on a cycle of *designing-implementing-monitoring-evaluating-adjusting* management actions to achieve zone objectives.

Administration

- Pursue agreements with habitat restoration and management groups to improve wildlife habitat (e.g. Ducks Unlimited, Colorado Division of Wildlife)
- Pursue agreements with education groups to provide learning opportunities (e.g. school districts, outdoor education programs)
- As one part of a comprehensive funding strategy to support recreation sites and services, the BLM (with partner support) may charge fees for standard or expanded amenity recreation sites and services. Standard or expanded amenity fees are defined in the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA).

Information

- Provide stewardship education/interpretation to help enhance visitor understanding of natural and cultural resources

- 
- Provide RMZ map at on-site locations that includes information about opportunities, conditions of use, and shows private and public ownership.
  - Work with local chambers of commerce, tourism boards and commercial businesses to develop accurate information regarding targeted recreation opportunities.

Monitoring

- Monitor outcome attainment and preferences through customer assessments (e.g. focus group interviews or visitor studies) on five year intervals or as funding allows. Monitor activity participation and RSCs annually during the primary use season of June through September.
- If future monitoring indicates management objectives are not being met, the KFO may create an allocation system for the SRMA.

## **Wolford Special Recreation Management Area (Alternative D)**

### **Supporting Information**

#### Important Values of the SRMA.

- The area offers close to town recreation opportunities in a natural setting.

#### Recreation Demand.

- The primary visitors are a mix of local, regional, and state-wide residents.

#### The General Types of Visitors to be Served.

- The visitor segment is identified as OHV trail riding enthusiasts.

#### Ability to Manage Recreation Resources.

- The majority of the existing trail system was created by local OHV riders. The trails were not designed for sustainable trail riding. There are currently information kiosks at major access points. There are no developed staging areas or facilities at the major access points. A major investment would be required by the BLM to complete implementation.

### **Recreation Management Zone (RMZ) 1**

#### **RMZ Outcome Objective:**

Participants in visitor assessments report an average 4.0 realization of the targeted outcomes listed below. (4.0 on a probability scale where: 1 = Not at all realized to 5 = totally realized).

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Experiences</b>	<b>Benefits</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ATV riding</li><li>• Jeeping</li><li>• Motorcycle riding</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Developing skills and abilities</li><li>• Enjoying time with family and friends</li></ul>	<p><b>Personal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improved outdoor recreation skills</li><li>• Greater personal enrichment from involvement with family and friends</li></ul> <p><b>Community/Social:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improved functioning of individuals, families and communities</li></ul> <p><b>Environmental:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increased awareness and protection of natural landscapes</li></ul> <p><b>Economic:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improved employment opportunities and tax revenue</li><li>• Increased local tourism revenue</li></ul>

### **Proposed Recreation Setting Characteristics (RSCs)**

#### **Proposed Physical RSCs**

- Remoteness: Maintain the existing density of roads
- Naturalness: Allow a moderate level of change to the naturalness of the SRMA
- Visitor Facilities: Develop additional facilities and trails

#### **Proposed Social RSCs**

- Contacts (avg.): Manage for a season average of 20 - 25 encounters outside parking areas
- Group Size (avg.): Manage for a season average of 5 - 10 people per group outside of parking areas
- Evidence of Use: Rehab and reduce signs of use by non-targeted visitors.

### **Proposed Operational RSCs**

- Access (types of travel): Develop new motorized trails.
- Visitor Services/Info: Basic information on-site; occasional staff contact and assistance.
- Management Controls: Rules, regulations and ethics clearly posted. Use restrictions, limitations and/or closures may be implemented.

### **Supporting Management Action and Allowable Use Decisions**

#### **Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:**

- Designate the area as *Limited to Designated* (All modes and types of travel, except foot and horse travel and authorized over-the-snow vehicles, would be limited to designated routes and trails).
- Designate the Wolford Play Area as open to motorized use.
- Close Wolford Mountain single-track trail September 15 to June 1.
- December 15 to April 15 motorized travel is limited to snowmobiles and authorized over-the-snow vehicles on CR 224, CR 25.

#### **Camping:**

- Close the OHV play area and the Sidewinder Trail parking area to overnight camping.

#### **Shooting:**

- Close the southern part of the zone to target shooting. (Refer to recreational target shooting in Recreation section of Chapter 2, Table 2-2, and map in Appendix A.)

#### **Lands and Realty:**

- ROW avoidance areas to include developed recreation sites.
- Retain SRMAs and developed recreational sites for long-term management.

#### **Stipulations and Conditions of Approval for Oil and Gas Leasing and Other Surface-Disturbing Activities:**

- To protect recreational setting character, recreation activity opportunities, and visitor health and safety in areas of high recreational value and/or significant recreational activity, apply CSU and/or COA restrictions (Appendices B&D) within the SRMA.
- To protect federal investment in facilities, provide for recreation use, and protect the viewshed from the facility, apply CSU and/or COA restrictions (Appendices B&D) on developed recreation sites, trails, trailheads, and interpretive sites.

#### **Visual Resource Management:**

- Manage the SRMA under VRM class III objectives.

#### **Special Recreation Permits:**

- Issue commercial, competitive, and organized group Class I - IV permits that are consistent with zone objectives (Appendix M).
- Competitive dirt bike events would be authorized on ATV and primitive roads.
- Competitive mountain bike events would be allowed on single track, ATV and primitive roads.
- Competitive ATV events would be limited to primitive roads.
- Competitive and organized groups would be limited to 6 events per season with up to 100 participants (not including spectators) per event.
- No competitive events or commercial outfitting will be permitted on the Sidewinder Extreme Jeep Trail.
- Designate the SRMA as a Special Area for the purpose of implementing individual permits.

### **Implementation Actions Included in the Land Use Plan**

#### **Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:**

- Designate individual routes as open or closed.
- On open routes, designate type and mode of travel allowed.

### **Subsequent Implementation-level Planning Guidance**

### Management

- Develop a *stacked-loop trail system*\* that is consistent with Criteria for Placement of Trails (Appendix P) and achieves zone objectives.

\*See *Off-Highway Motorcycle and ATV Trails: Guidelines for Design, Construction, Maintenance and User Satisfaction 2<sup>nd</sup> edition* and *Managing Mountain Biking: IMBA's Guide to Providing Great Riding*

- Maintain a trail density no greater than 12 miles of trails per square mile in the southern part of the zone decreasing to 7 miles of trail per square mile in the northern part of the zone. Increase the overall average number of miles of recreation trails per square mile within the zone from the existing 4.7 miles to 6 miles.
- Develop the necessary facilities to accommodate motorized trail riders. (staging areas, toilet facilities, etc.)
- Design and construct a skills development park in the open OHV area.
- With stakeholder involvement, apply adaptive management (e.g., Limits of Acceptable Change) which focuses on a cycle of *designing-implementing-monitoring-evaluating-adjusting* management actions to achieve zone objectives.

### Administration

- Pursue agreements with local motorized trail users to leverage funding, secure volunteer help, and promote sustainable conditions of use.
- As one part of a comprehensive funding strategy to support recreation sites and services, the BLM (with partner support) may charge fees for standard or expanded amenity recreation sites and services. Standard or expanded amenity fees are defined in the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA).
- Coordinate with CDOW regarding seasonal and emergency closures for wildlife.

### Information

- Provide stewardship education/interpretation to help promote responsible motorized recreation (Tread Lightly/Stay the Trail)
- Provide RMZ map at on-site locations that includes information about opportunities, conditions of use, and shows private and public ownership.
- Work with local chambers of commerce, tourism groups and businesses to provide definitive recreation information (i.e., accurate recreation information, user ethics, and use/user expectations) as opposed to promotional marketing.
- Partner with local OHV organizations and the local schools to develop and implement an education program that promotes sustainable conditions of use.

### Monitoring

- Monitor recreation setting conditions through on-site patrols throughout the year.
- Monitor outcome attainment and preferences through customer assessments (on-site/focus group interviews or visitor studies) on five-year intervals.
- If future monitoring indicates management objectives are not being met, the KFO may create an allocation system for the SRMA.
- When possible, use volunteers to help with on-site monitoring.

## Recreation Management Zone (RMZ) 2

### RMZ Outcome Objective:

Participants in visitor assessments report an average 4.0 realization of the targeted outcomes listed below. (4.0 on a probability scale where: 1 = Not at all realized to 5 = totally realized).

Activities	Experiences	Benefits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ATV riding</li><li>• Motorcycle riding</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Experiencing adventure and excitement</li><li>• Getting some needed physical exercise</li></ul>	<p><b>Personal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improved outdoor recreation skills</li><li>• Improved physical fitness</li><li>• Restored mind from unwanted stress</li></ul> <p><b>Community/Social:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Greater community involvement with recreation and other land use decisions</li></ul> <p><b>Environmental:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increased awareness and protection of natural landscapes</li></ul> <p><b>Economic:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improved employment opportunities and tax revenue</li><li>• Increased local tourism revenue</li></ul>

### Proposed Recreation Setting Characteristics (RSCs)

#### Proposed Physical RSCs

- Remoteness: Maintain the existing density of roads.
- Naturalness: Allow a moderate level of change to the naturalness of the SRMA.
- Visitor Facilities: Maintain current access roads; Develop additional parking/unloading areas and trails.

#### Proposed Social RSCs

- Contacts (avg.): Manage for a season average of 10 - 15 encounters outside parking areas.
- Group Size (avg.): Manage for a season average of 3 - 7 people per group outside of parking areas.
- Evidence of Use: Rehab and reduce signs of use by non-targeted visitors.

#### Proposed Operational RSCs

- Access (types of travel): Develop new motorized trails.
- Visitor Services/Info: Basic information on-site; occasional staff contact and assistance.
- Management Controls: Rules, regulations and ethics clearly posted. Use restrictions, limitations and/or closures may be implemented.

### Supporting Management Action and Allowable Use Decisions

#### Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:

- Designate the area as *Limited to Designated* (All modes and types of travel, except foot and horse travel and authorized over-the-snow vehicles, would be limited to designated routes and trails).
- December 15 to April 15 motorized travel is limited to snowmobiles and authorized over-the-snow vehicles on CR 26, CR 25, CR 2, and road WN001 as identified in Wolford Travel Management Plan

#### Camping:

- Close the Cretaceous Ammonite site and the Red Desert Overlook to overnight camping.

#### Lands and Realty:

- ROW avoidance areas to include developed recreation sites.

- Retain SRMAs and developed recreational sites for long-term management.

Stipulations and Conditions of Approval for Oil and Gas Leasing and Other Surface-Disturbing Activities:

- To protect recreational setting character, recreation activity opportunities, and visitor health and safety in areas of high recreational value and/or significant recreational activity, apply CSU and/or COA restrictions (Appendices B&D) within the SRMA.
- To protect federal investment in facilities, provide for recreation use, and protect the viewshed from the facility, apply CSU and/or COA restrictions (Appendices B&D) on developed recreation sites, trails, trailheads, and interpretive sites.

Visual Resource Management:

- Manage the SRMA under VRM class III objectives.

Special Recreation Permits:

- Issue commercial and organized group Class I – III permits that are consistent with zone objective (See Appendix M).
- Competitive mountain bike events would be allowed on single track, ATV trails and primitive roads.
- Limit competitive and organized group permits to 2 events per season with up to 100 participants (not including spectators) per event.
- Designate the SRMA as a Special Area for the purpose of implementing individual permits.

## **Implementation Actions Included in the Land Use Plan**

Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:

- Designate individual routes as open or closed.
- On open routes, designate type and mode of travel allowed.

## **Subsequent Implementation-level Planning Guidance**

Management

- Develop a *stacked-loop trail system\** that is consistent with Criteria for Placement of Trails (Appendix P) and achieves zone objectives.

*\*See Off-Highway Motorcycle and ATV Trails: Guidelines for Design, Construction, Maintenance and User Satisfaction 2<sup>nd</sup> edition and Managing Mountain Biking: IMBA's Guide to Providing Great Riding*

- Maintain a trail density no greater than 6 miles of trails per square mile in the southern part of the zone decreasing to 4 miles of trail per square mile in the northern part of the zone. Increase the overall average number of miles of recreation trails per square mile within the zone from the existing 2 miles to 5 miles.
- Develop the necessary facilities to accommodate motorized trail riders. (parking areas, loading & unloading areas, toilet facilities, etc.)
- With stakeholder involvement, apply adaptive management (e.g., Limits of Acceptable Change) which focuses on a cycle of *designing-implementing-monitoring-evaluating-adjusting* management actions to achieve zone objectives.

Administration

- Pursue agreements with local motorized trail users to leverage funding, secure volunteer help, and promote sustainable conditions of use.
- As one part of a comprehensive funding strategy to support recreation sites and services, the BLM (with partner support) may charge fees for standard or expanded amenity recreation sites and services. Standard or expanded amenity fees are defined in the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA).
- Coordinate with CDOW regarding seasonal and emergency closures for wildlife.

Information

- Provide stewardship education/interpretation to help promote responsible motorized recreation (Tread Lightly/Stay the Trail)
- Provide RMZ map at on-site locations that includes information about opportunities, conditions of use, and shows private and public ownership.

- Work with local chambers of commerce, tourism groups and businesses to provide definitive recreation information (i.e., accurate recreation information, user ethics, and use/user expectations) as opposed to promotional marketing.
- Partner with local OHV organizations and the local schools to develop and implement an education program that promotes sustainable conditions of use.

#### Monitoring

- Monitor recreation setting conditions through on-site patrols throughout the year.
- Monitor outcome attainment and preferences through customer assessments (on-site/focus group interviews or visitor studies) on five-year intervals.
- If future monitoring indicates management objectives are not being met, the KFO may create an allocation system for the SRMA.
- When possible, use volunteers to help with on-site monitoring.

## **Extensive Recreation Management Areas (ERMAs)**

## **Headwaters Extensive Recreation Management Area** (Alternative B)

---

### **ERMA Objective**

Through the life of the plan the Headwaters ERMA offers visitors the freedom to participate in a variety of non-motorized and non-mechanized recreation activities in a natural-appearing landscape which results in a variety of recreation experiences and benefits.

### **Supporting Management Action and Allowable Use Decisions**

#### Camping:

- Close the Jacques Road Parking area to overnight camping.
- Close dispersed camping ½ mile along Kinney Creek Road (1/4 mile either side of road). Overnight camping is limited to designated campsites.

#### Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:

- Designate the area as *Limited to Designated* (All modes and types of travel, except foot and horse travel and authorized over-the-snow vehicles, would be limited to designated routes and trails).
- Close the Kinney Creek Spur and McQuery Creek Roads from Labor Day to June 1.
- Close the ERMA to motorized travel between December 15 and May 15. (Exception: motorized travel is limited to snowmobiles and authorized over-the-snow vehicles.)

#### Special Recreation Permits:

- Only issue Class I special recreation permits for a wide variety of uses, that are consistent with natural and cultural resource objectives, and within budgetary/workload constraints. (Refer to Appendix M.).

#### Lands and Realty:

- ROW avoidance areas to include developed recreation sites.

#### Stipulations and Conditions of Approval for Oil and Gas Leasing and Other Surface-Disturbing Activities:

- To protect recreational setting character, recreation activity opportunities, and visitor health and safety in areas of high recreational value and/or significant recreational activity, apply CSU and/or COA restrictions (Appendices B&D) within the ERMA.
- To protect federal investment in facilities, provide for recreation use, and protect the viewshed from the facility, apply CSU and/or COA restrictions (Appendices B&D) on developed recreation sites, trails, trailheads, and interpretive sites.

#### Visual Resource Management:

- Manage the area within the ERMA that includes timber resources under VRM Class III objectives. Manage the remainder of the ERMA under VRM Class II objectives.

### **Implementation Actions Included in the Land Use Plan**

#### Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:

- Designate individual routes as open or closed.
- On open routes, designate type and mode of travel allowed.

### **Subsequent Implementation-level Planning Guidance**

#### **Management**

- Develop new recreation facilities (e.g., trails, trailheads, restrooms) to effectively address recreation activity demand created by growing communities and recreation-tourism if: 1) the proposal is consistent with interdisciplinary land use plan objectives; and 2) sufficient funding and long-term management commitments are secured from managing partners.
- Connect/reroute routes to make loop opportunities as necessary.

- 
- Re-route/repair unsustainable and eroding routes.
  - Close and rehabilitate routes not included in route system.
  - Reduce trespass onto adjacent private property. This could involve connecting trails to make loops, closing/restoring routes, and appropriate signing.
  - Install signage to identify trails.

#### **Administration**

- Coordinate with CDOW regarding seasonal and emergency closures for wildlife.

#### **Information**

- Provide stewardship education/information to help promote the sustainable use of natural resources.
- Create a basic map of trails and private and public ownership. Provide maps at on-site locations
- Work with local chambers of commerce, tourism groups and businesses to provide definitive recreation information (i.e., accurate recreation information, user ethics, and use/user expectations) as opposed to promotional marketing.

#### **Monitoring**

- Monitor visitor use, visitor health and safety, resource conditions, and the physical qualities of the landscape with the help of recreation-tourism partnerships (e.g., towns, user groups, recreation-tourism organizations, outfitters, CDOW, etc.).
- If future monitoring indicates management objectives are not being met, the KFO may create an allocation system for the ERMA.

---

## **Strawberry Extensive Recreation Management Area (ERMA)** (Alternative B)

---

### **ERMA Objective**

Through the life of the plan the Strawberry ERMA offers visitors the freedom to participate in a variety of recreation activities in a natural-appearing landscape which results in a variety of recreation experiences and benefits.

### **Supporting Management Action and Allowable Use Decisions**

#### Camping:

- Close the Fraser River Access and Hurd Peak parking areas to overnight camping.

#### Shooting:

- Close the southern part of the ERMA to target shooting. (Refer to recreational target shooting in Recreation section of Chapter 2, Table 2-2, and map in Appendix A.)

#### Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:

- Designate the area as *Limited to Designated* (All modes and types of travel, except foot and horse travel and authorized over-the-snow vehicles, would be limited to designated routes and trails).
- Prohibit motorized and mechanized use on the single-track trails from October 1 to June 1.
- Prohibit motorized and mechanized use on the Behler Creek Road from Labor Day to June 1.
- Prohibit motorized and mechanized use on the Strawberry Road from December 1 to June 1.

#### Lands and Realty:

- ROW avoidance areas to include developed recreation sites.

#### Special Recreation Permits:

- Only issue Class I & II special recreation permits for a wide variety of uses, that are consistent with natural and cultural resource objectives, and within budgetary/workload constraints. (Refer to Appendix M.).

#### Stipulations and Conditions of Approval for Oil and Gas Leasing and Other Surface-Disturbing Activities:

- To protect recreational setting character, recreation activity opportunities, and visitor health and safety in areas of high recreational value and/or significant recreational activity, apply CSU and/or COA restrictions (Appendices B&D) within the ERMA.
- To protect federal investment in facilities, provide for recreation use, and protect the viewshed from the facility, apply CSU and/or COA restrictions (Appendices B&D) on developed recreation sites, trails, trailheads, and interpretive sites.

#### Forest Management

- Intensive forest management projects would occur within the ERMA. During project planning and design recreation setting characteristics would be protected wherever possible; however in some cases, recreation setting characteristics may have to be modified within a project area to meet forest management objectives and user safety concerns.

#### Visual Resource Management:

- Manage the area within the ERMA that includes timber resources under VRM Class III objectives. Manage the remainder of the ERMA under VRM Class II objectives.

### **Implementation Actions Included in the Land Use Plan**

#### Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:

- Designate individual routes as open or closed.
- On open routes, designate type and mode of travel allowed.

---

## **Subsequent Implementation-level Planning Guidance**

### **Management**

- Develop new recreation facilities (e.g., trails, trailheads, restrooms) to effectively address recreation activity demand created by growing communities and recreation-tourism if: 1) the proposal is consistent with interdisciplinary land use plan objectives; and 2) sufficient funding and long-term management commitments are secured from managing partners.
- Connect/reroute routes to make loop opportunities as necessary.
- Re-route/repair unsustainable and eroding routes.
- Close and rehabilitate routes not included in route system.
- Reduce trespass onto adjacent private property and adjacent US Forest service lands. This could involve connecting trails to make loops, closing/restoring routes, and appropriate signing.
- Install signage to identify trails.

### **Administration**

- Coordinate with CDOW regarding seasonal and emergency closures for wildlife.

### **Information**

- Provide stewardship education/information to help promote the sustainable use of natural resources.
- Create a basic map of trails and private and public ownership. Provide maps at on-site locations
- Work with local chambers of commerce, tourism groups and businesses to provide definitive recreation information (i.e., accurate recreation information, user ethics, and use/user expectations) as opposed to promotional marketing.

### **Monitoring Framework**

- Monitor visitor use, visitor health and safety, resource conditions, and the physical qualities of the landscape with the help of recreation-tourism partnerships (e.g., towns, user groups, recreation-tourism organizations, outfitters, CDOW, etc.).
- If future monitoring indicates management objectives are not being met, the KFO may create an allocation system for the ERMA.

## **Upper Colorado River Extensive Recreation Management Area** (Alternative B & C)

---

### **ERMA Objective**

Through the life of the plan the Upper Colorado River ERMA offers visitors the freedom to participate in a variety of non-motorized recreation activities in a relatively unchanged landscape which results in a variety of recreation experiences and benefits.

### **Supporting Management Action and Allowable Use Decisions**

#### Camping:

- Close all fishing access sites to overnight camping

#### Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:

- Designate the area as *Limited to Designated* (All modes and types of travel, except foot and horse travel and authorized over-the-snow vehicles, would be limited to designated routes and trails).

#### Special Recreation Permits:

- Only issue Class I & II special recreation permits for a wide variety of uses, that are consistent with natural and cultural resource objectives, and within budgetary/workload constraints. (Refer to Appendix M).

#### Lands and Realty:

- ROW avoidance areas to include developed recreation sites.

#### Stipulations for Oil and Gas Leasing and Other Surface-Disturbing Activities:

- To protect recreational setting character, recreation activity opportunities, and visitor health and safety in areas of high recreational value and/or significant recreational activity, apply CSU and/or COA restrictions (Appendices B&D) within the ERMA.
- To protect federal investment in facilities, provide for recreation use, and protect the viewshed from the facility, apply CSU and/or COA restrictions (Appendices B&D) on developed recreation sites, trails, trailheads, and interpretive sites.

#### Visual Resource Management:

- Manage the ERMA under VRM Class II objectives.

### **Implementation Actions Included in the Land Use Plan**

#### Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:

- Designate individual routes as open or closed.
- On open routes, designate type and mode of travel allowed.

### **Subsequent Implementation-level Planning Guidance**

#### **Management**

- Develop new recreation facilities (e.g., trails, trailheads, restrooms) to effectively address recreation activity demand created by growing communities and recreation-tourism if: 1) the proposal is consistent with interdisciplinary land use plan objectives; and 2) sufficient funding and long-term management commitments are secured from managing partners.
- Reduce trespass onto adjacent private property. This could involve connecting trails to make loops, closing/restoring routes, and appropriate signing.
- Install signage to identify river access trails.

#### **Administration**

- Coordinate with CDOW regarding seasonal and emergency closures for wildlife.

- Pursue agreements with Ducks Unlimited, Trout Unlimited and Colorado Division of Wildlife to develop partnerships to leverage funding, improve habitat and conduct monitoring.

#### **Information**

- Provide stewardship education/information to help promote the sustainable use of natural resources.
- Create a basic map of trails and private and public ownership. Provide maps at on-site locations
- Work with local chambers of commerce, tourism groups and businesses to provide definitive recreation information (i.e., accurate recreation information, user ethics, and use/user expectations) as opposed to promotional marketing.

#### **Monitoring**

- Monitor visitor use, visitor health and safety, resource conditions, and the physical qualities of the landscape with the help of recreation-tourism partnerships (e.g., towns, user groups, recreation-tourism organizations, outfitters, CDOW, etc.).
- If future monitoring indicates management objectives are not being met, the KFO may create an allocation system for the ERMA.

## **Wolford Extensive Recreation Management Area (Alternative B)**

---

### **ERMA Objective**

Through the life of the plan the Wolford ERMA offers visitors the freedom to participate in a variety of recreation activities in a relatively natural-appearing landscape which results in a variety of recreation experiences and benefits.

### **Supporting Management Action and Allowable Use Decisions**

#### Camping:

- Close the OHV play area and the Sidewinder Trail parking area to overnight camping.
- Close the Cretaceous Ammonite site and the Red Desert Overlook to overnight camping.
- Close BLM lands within the ERMA west of CR 224 to overnight camping.

#### Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:

- Designate the area as *Limited to Designated* (All modes and types of travel, except foot and horse travel and authorized over-the-snow vehicles, would be limited to designated routes and trails).
- Close Wolford Mountain single-track trail September 15 to June 1.
- Limit motorized travel from December 15 to April 15 to snowmobiles and authorized over-the-snow vehicles on County Roads 224, 25, 26, 2, and 22.

#### Special Recreation Permits:

- Issue commercial, competitive, and organized group Class I - IV permits for a wide variety of uses, that are consistent with natural and cultural resource objectives, and within budgetary/workload constraints. (Refer to Appendix M).
- Competitive dirt bike events would be allowed on ATV trails and primitive roads.
- Competitive mountain bike events would be allowed on single track, ATV and primitive roads.
- Competitive ATV events would be limited to primitive roads.
- Competitive and organized group permits would be limited to 6 events per season with up to 100 participants (not including spectators) per event.
- No competitive events or commercial outfitting will be permitted on the Sidewinder Extreme Jeep Trail.

#### Lands and Realty:

- ROW avoidance areas to include developed recreation sites.

#### Stipulations and Conditions of Approval for Oil and Gas Leasing and Other Surface-Disturbing Activities:

- To protect recreational setting character, recreation activity opportunities, and visitor health and safety in areas of high recreational value and/or significant recreational activity, apply CSU and/or COA restrictions (Appendices B&D) within the ERMA.
- To protect federal investment in facilities, provide for recreation use, and protect the viewshed from the facility, apply CSU and/or COA restrictions (Appendices B&D) on developed recreation sites, trails, trailheads, and interpretive sites.

#### Visual Resource Management:

- Manage the area within the ERMA under VRM Class II objectives.

### **Implementation Actions Included in the Land Use Plan**

#### Comprehensive Trails and Travel Management:

- Designate individual routes as open or closed.
- On open routes, designate type and mode of travel allowed.

---

## **Subsequent Implementation-level Planning Guidance**

### **Management**

- Develop new recreation facilities (e.g., trails, trailheads, restrooms) to effectively address recreation activity demand created by growing communities and recreation-tourism if: 1) the proposal is consistent with interdisciplinary land use plan objectives; and 2) sufficient funding and long-term management commitments are secured from managing partners.
- Connect/reroute routes to make loop opportunities as necessary.
- Re-route/repair unsustainable and eroding routes.
- Close and rehabilitate routes not included in route system.
- Reduce trespass onto adjacent private property. This could involve connecting trails to make loops, closing/restoring routes, and appropriate signing.
- Install signage to identify trails.

### **Administration**

- Coordinate with CDOW regarding seasonal and emergency closures for wildlife.

### **Information**

- Provide stewardship education/information to help promote the sustainable use of natural resources.
- Create a basic map of trails and private and public ownership. Provide maps at on-site locations
- Work with local chambers of commerce, tourism groups and businesses to provide definitive recreation information (i.e., accurate recreation information, user ethics, and use/user expectations) as opposed to promotional marketing.

### **Monitoring**

- Monitor visitor use, visitor health and safety, resource conditions, and the physical qualities of the landscape with the help of recreation-tourism partnerships (e.g., towns, user groups, recreation-tourism organizations, outfitters, CDOW, etc.).
- If future monitoring indicates management objectives are not being met, the KFO may create an allocation system for the ERMA.

## Recreation Setting Character Condition Matrix

## RECREATION SETTING CHARACTER CONDITION MATRIX

01/18/2009

### PHYSICAL - Qualities of the Landscape

	<i>Primitive Classification</i>	<i>Back Country Classification</i>	<i>Middle Country Classification</i>	<i>Front Country Classification</i>	<i>Rural Classification</i>	<i>Urban Classification</i>
<b>Remoteness</b> (approx. distance from routes)	More than ½ mile from any kind of a man-made trail	More than ½ mile from any kind of a man-made ATV or full-sized vehicle route	More than ½ mile from improved gravel roads	More than ½ mile from paved roads and railroad tracks.	More than ½ mile from municipal streets or roads within towns or cities.	Municipal street and roads within towns or cities.
<b>Naturalness</b> (landscape texture form, line, color)	Undisturbed natural landscape.	Natural landscape with any modifications in harmony with surroundings and not visually obvious or evident (e.g. stock ponds, trails).	Character of the natural landscape retained. A few modifications contrast with character of the landscape (e.g. fences, primitive roads).	Character of the natural landscape partially modified but none overpower natural landscape (e.g. roads, structures, utilities).	Character of the natural landscape considerably modified (agriculture, residential or industrial).	Urbanized developments dominate landscape.
<b>Visitor Facilities</b>	No structures. Foot/horse trails only.	Developed trails made mostly of native materials such as log bridges. Structures are rare and isolated.	Maintained and marked trails, simple trailhead developments and basic toilets.	Rustic facilities such as campsites, restrooms, trailheads, and interpretive displays.	Modern facilities such as campgrounds, group shelters, boat launches, and occasional exhibits.	Elaborate full-service facilities such as laundry, restaurants, and groceries.

### SOCIAL - Qualities Associated with Use

	<i>Primitive Classification</i>	<i>Back Country Classification</i>	<i>Middle Country Classification</i>	<i>Front Country Classification</i>	<i>Rural Classification</i>	<i>Urban Classification</i>
<b>Contacts</b> (avg. with any other group)	Fewer than 3 encounters/day at camp sites and fewer than 6 encounters/day on travel routes.	3-6 encounters/day off travel routes (e.g., campsites) and 7-15 encounters/day on travel routes.	7-14 encounters/day off travel routes (e.g., staging areas) and 15-29 encounters/ day en route	15-29 encounters/day off travel routes (e.g., campgrounds) and 30 or more encounters/day in route.	People seem to be generally everywhere.	Busy place with other people constantly in view.
<b>Group Size</b> (average - other than you own)	Fewer than or equal to 3 people per group.	4-6 people per group.	7-12 people per group	13-25 people per group.	26-50 people per group.	Greater than 50 people per group.
<b>Evidence of Use</b>	No alteration of the natural terrain. Footprints only observed. Sounds of people rare.	Areas of alteration uncommon. Little surface vegetation wear observed. Sounds of people infrequent.	Small areas of alteration. Surface vegetation showing wear with some bare soils. Sounds of people occasionally heard.	Small areas of alteration prevalent. Surface vegetation gone with compacted soils observed. Sounds of people regularly heard.	A few large areas of alteration. Surface vegetation absent with hardened soils. Sounds of people frequently heard.	Large areas of alteration prevalent. Some erosion. Constantly hear people.

### OPERATIONAL - Conditions Created by Management and Controls over Recreation Use

	<i>Primitive Classification</i>	<i>Back Country Classification</i>	<i>Middle Country Classification</i>	<i>Front Country Classification</i>	<i>Rural Classification</i>	<i>Urban Classification</i>
<b>Access</b> (types of travel allowed)	All travel is restricted to foot and horse travel.	Mountain bikes and perhaps other mechanized use, but all is non-motorized.	Four-wheel drives, all-terrain vehicles, dirt bikes, or snowmobiles in addition to non-motorized, mechanized use.	Two-wheel drive vehicles predominant, but also four wheel drives and non-motorized, mechanized use.	Ordinary highway auto and truck traffic is characteristic.	Wide variety of street vehicles and highway traffic is ever-present.

<b>Visitor Services (and info)</b>	None is available. Staff rarely present.	Basic maps, staff infrequently present (e.g. seasonally, high use periods) to provide on-site assistance	Area brochures and maps, staff occasionally (e.g. most weekends) present to provide on-site assistance.	Information materials describe recreation areas & activities, staff periodically present (e.g. weekdays & weekends).	Information described to the left, plus experience and benefit descriptions, staff regularly present (e.g. almost daily).	Information described to the left, plus regularly scheduled on-site outdoor demonstrations and clinics.
<b>Management Controls</b>	No visitor regulations or ethics signing on-site. No use restrictions.	Basic user regulations at key access points. Minimum use restrictions	Some regulatory and ethics signing. Moderate use restrictions. (e.g. camping, human waste).	Rules, regulations and ethics clearly posted. Use restrictions, limitations and/or closures.	Regulations strict and ethics prominent. Use may be limited by permit, reservation, etc.	Enforcement in addition to rules to reduce conflicts, hazards, and resource damage.